4

SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

Ace of Diamond act Ⅱ

ダイヤのA act Ⅱ

エース

寺嶋裕二

Presented by Yuji Terajima

新連載 第2話は大増46ページ! 「自称・医者」の死刑囚が脱獄!

日本全土がこの男の手術室になる!

『Dr.プリズナー』

週刊少年マガジン

28
2016 6/22
WEEKLY SHONEN MAGAZINE

青春ホームラン

10周年記念企画!!!

福岡ソフトバンクホークス
和田毅選手
インタビュー!

ダイヤのA

妙院高校戦さらなる激戦へ!!

今週はスポーツ漫画が熱い!

優勝と昇格を懸けた運命の最終節キックオフ!!

特集記事つきCカラー!

『あひるの空』『エリアの騎士』

Cカラー25ページ!

球春到来大人気巻頭カラー!!

TVアニメ『ダイヤのA』3月28日(月)
夕方6時よりテレビ東京系ネット他にて最終回!!

THEIR GAZE IS FIXED UPON WHAT LIES BEYOND THE SUMMIT

"SHORTSTOP"
KURAMOCHI YOUICHI

×

"SECOND BASEMAN"
KOMINATO HARUICHI

1 year after the first meeting —
Trust is deepened and teamwork is improved.

シリーズ累計2500万部突破!!
『ダイヤのA actII』第1・2巻発売中!!

ダイヤのA actII

CHAPTER 28
A SIGN

寺嶋裕二

ダイヤのA

THIS IS THE QUARTERFINAL OF TOKYO METROPOLITAN SPRING TOURNAMENT, WITH ITS HIGHLY EXCITING MATCHUP PITTING TWO POWERHOUSES FROM WEST AND EAST,

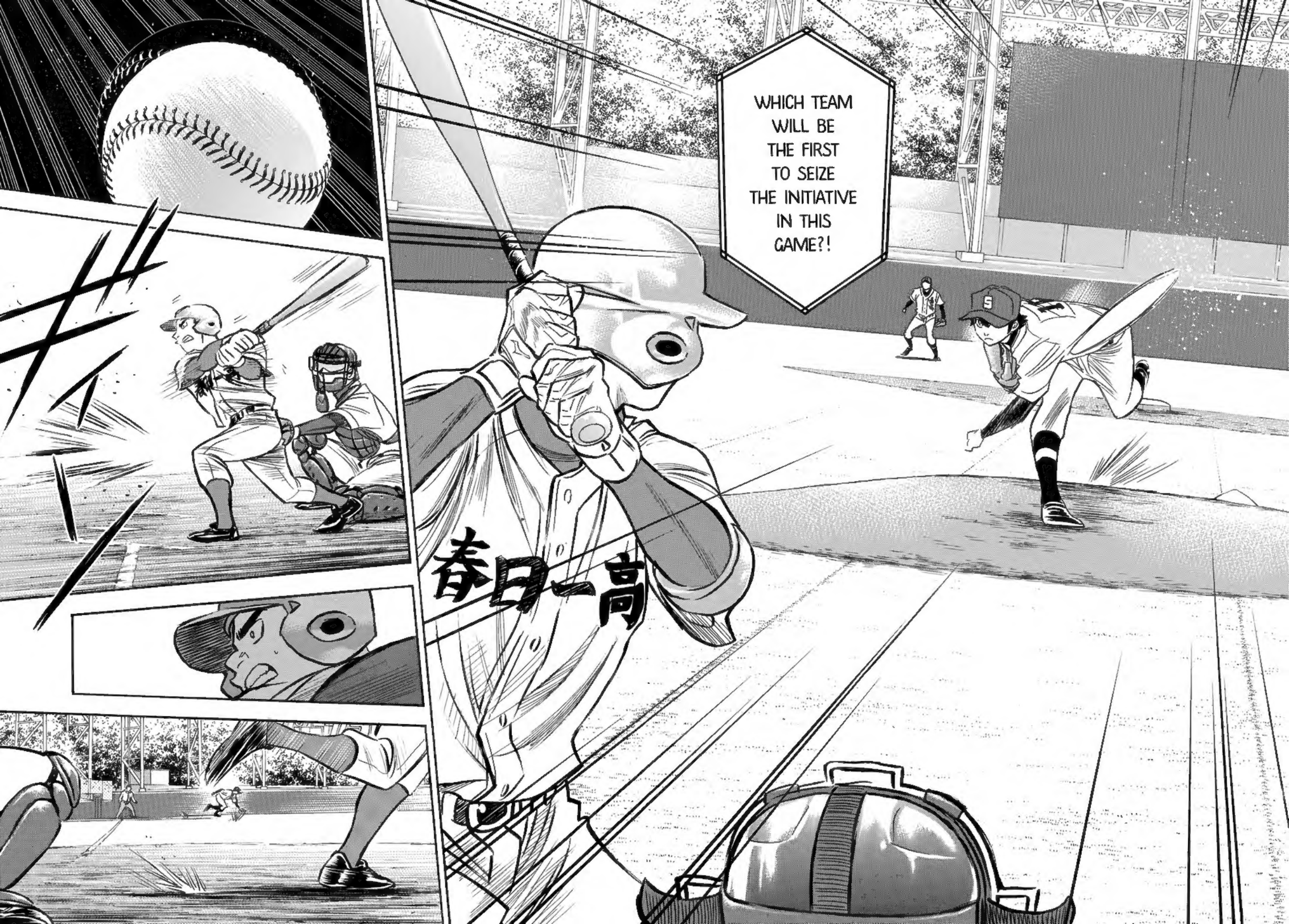
SEIDOU AND KASUGAICHI, AGAINST EACH OTHER!

SOUTHPAW SAWAMURA EIJUN, WITH THEIR FAMOUS MOBILITY.

BOTH COMPETING PITCHERS DEMONSTATED CALM AND RELIABLE PITCHING SO FAR, RESULTING IN AN UNEVENTFUL OPENER.

KASUGAICHI SEEKS TO DISRUPT THE PACE OF SEIDOU'S STARTING PITCHER,

Previously: Seidou's starting pitcher is Sawamura who is showing a superb opener with no runs lost in the 1st and 2nd! In the bottom of the 2nd, Yuki Masashi made his spectacular debut, exciting the audience with his intimidating swing despite striking out! The game enters its middle stage with the status quo unperturbed...


WHICH TEAM WILL BE THE FIRST TO SEIZE THE INITIATIVE IN THIS GAME?!
春日一高

2 OUTS!

2 OUTS!

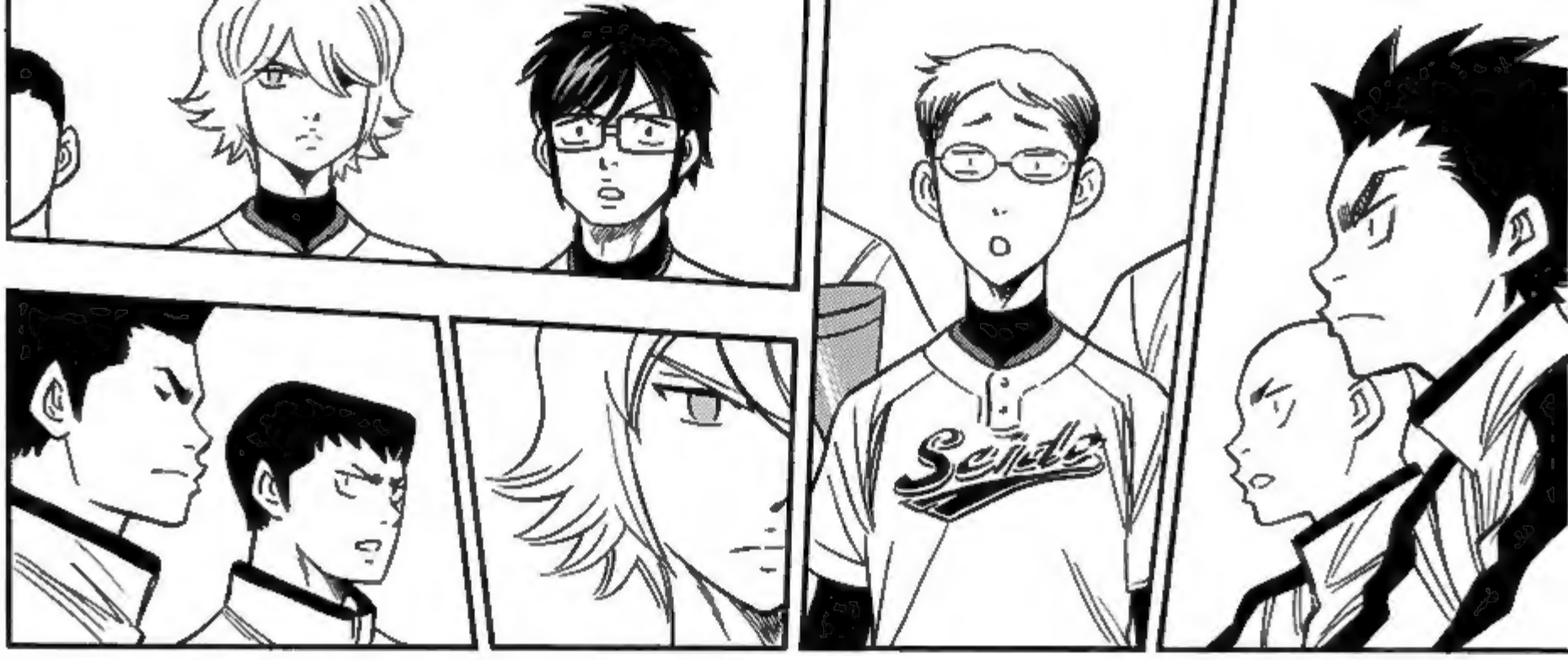
WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW? A 2-SEAMER?

A SLIDER, MAYBE...?

NO... I'M NOT SURE.

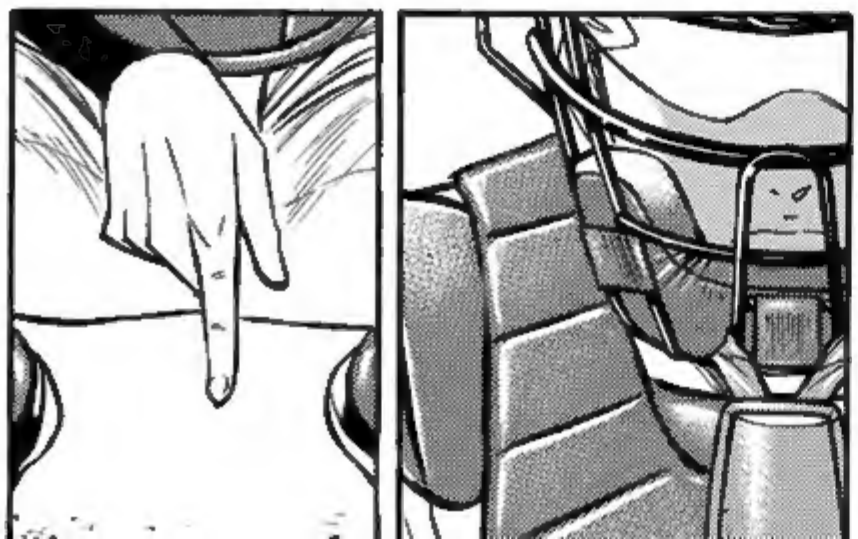
I WONDER MYSELF WHAT IT WAS...

NOW, ONE MORE TIME!


Seibu

THAT WAS A... CHANGEUP?
BUT IT... SUNK, NO?

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT...
IT BROKE IN SUCH A WEIRDASS WAY...



THAT PITCHER, DID HE HAVE A FORKBALL OR SOME-THING
IN HIS REPER-TOIRE?

5

AND WITH THIS PITCH TO THE INSIDE, THE SWINGING STRIKEOUT IS SEALED!

3 OUTS! CHANGE!

...

THAT WAS RATHER EFFECTIVE.

THAT DOESN'T SURPRISE ME ANYMORE THOUGH

UP AND THROWING IT IN AN ACTUAL GAME, HUH..

Only so-so!

The ones in this inning were good, right?

THE LEADOFF BATTER, KURAMOCHI, WHO GOT ON BASE ON A WALK,

DOESN'T HESITATE TO START STEALING BASE RIGHT AWAY!

RUN, CHEETAH, RUN!

BATTING 2ND, CENTER FIELDER, TOUJOU -KUN.

I MAY NEED TO CUT DOWN ON MY AMBITION TO MAKE A COMEBACK AS A PITCHER.

BECAUSE WITH HOW THIS IS GOING, THERE'S NO GUARANTEE ANYWHERE THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO RETAIN THE POSITION I ALREADY HAVE!

A HIT THAT'S TOO MUCH FOR THE PITCHER TO HANDLE!

ALRIGHTY~ WE WANT THIS FIRST RUN NOW!

AND IT'S TOO LATE FOR FIRST AS WELL!

THE SECOND BASE RUNNER ADVANCES TO THIRD,

BATTING THIRD, SECOND BASEMAN, KOMINATO-KUN.

FUH

IT'S BEST TO STRIKE THIS ONE OUT SWINGING WHILE WATCHING OUT FOR A POSSIBLE SQUEEZE PLAY...

CONSIDERING THAT THE NEXT ONE UP IS THEIR FOURTH BATTER,

WE'VE RETIRED THIS BATTER THE FIRST TIME AROUND,

BUT HE HAD THE SLIDER FIGURED OUT.

SWING YOUR ARM PROPERLY, TAKUYA!

KEEP IN MIND THAT THEY'LL RUN EVEN ON A GROUNDER.

INFIELD-ERS!

A FORKBALL ON THE FIRST PITCH DESPITE THE RUNNER ON THIRD, HUH.

I THINK THAT LEARNING THE FORKBALL THAT'S CAPABLE OF MAKING THE BATTERS SWING AND MISS WAS WHAT ALLOWED HIM TO STEP UP HIS GAME.

LOOKS LIKE THIS IS WHERE KASUGAICHI'S BATTERY DECIDED TO GIVE THEM A DECISIVE FIGHT.

IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S THIS BATTERY'S LIFELINE...

THE PITCH THAT ALLOWED THIS PITCHER TO BECOME THE ACE...

THAT'S RIGHT... THEIR TRUE WINNING SHOT HIDDEN IN THE SHADOW OF THE SLIDER.

HERE IT COMES AGAIN,

THE FORK-BALL.

A HIT TO LEFT FIELD!

HYAHA

THAT'S HARUICHI FOR YA!

AND THE ONES TO STEP ON THE HOME PLATE FIRST

ARE SEIDOU HIGH!

THAT WAS A REAL GOOD HIT JUST NOW

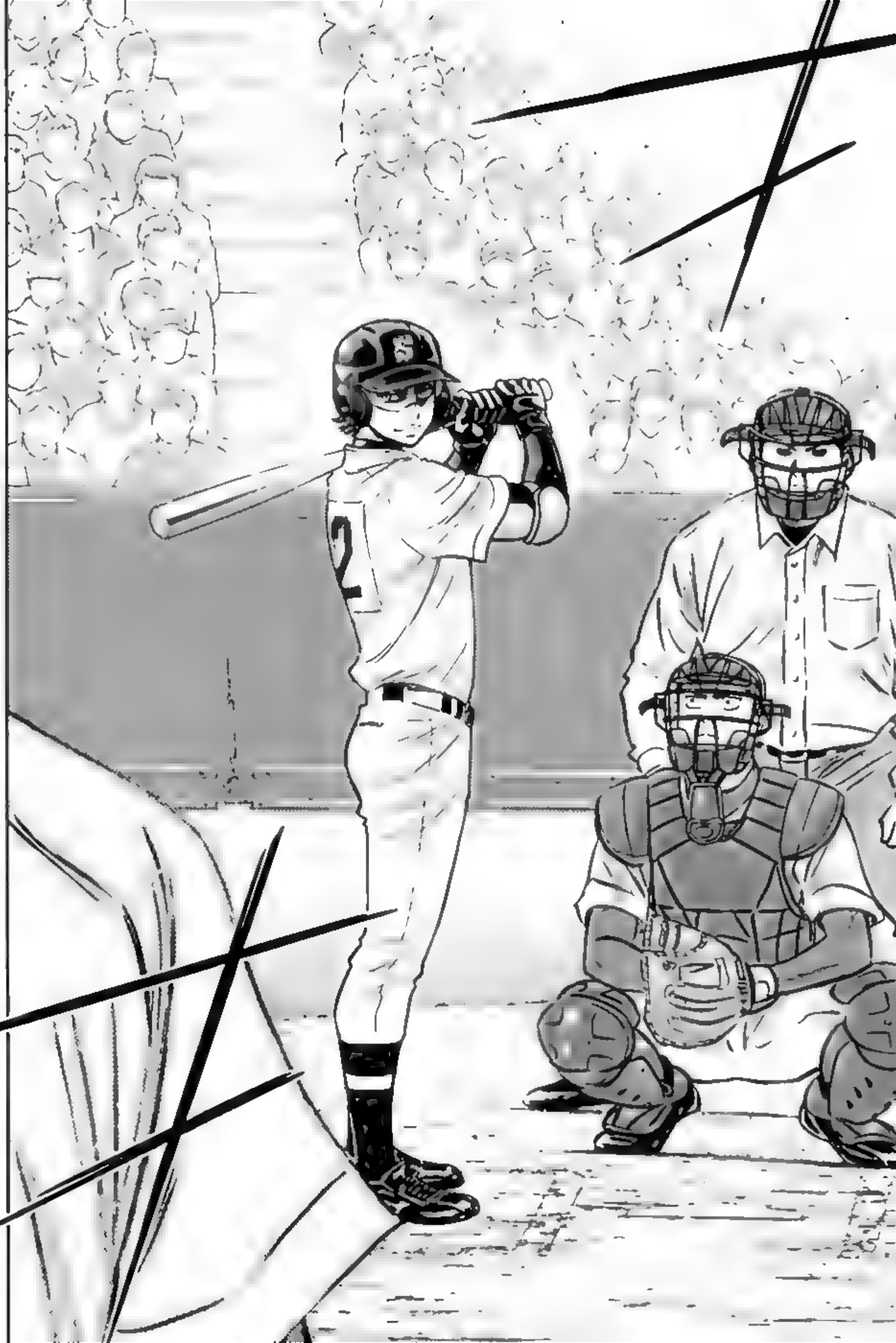
IT'S SUCH A PAIN IN THE ASS THAT THEY HAVE A BATTER LIKE THAT BEFORE THEIR FOURTH.

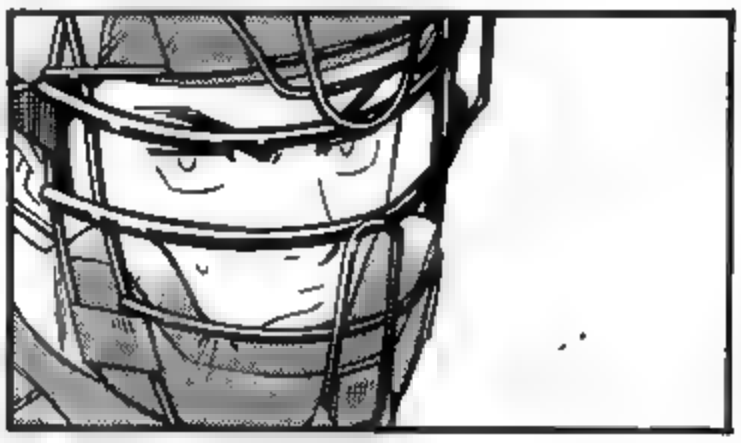
NO OUTS YET, WITH RUNNERS ON FIRST AND SECOND.

OH, THE MAIN GUY'S UP.

AND THE ONE UP NEXT IS SEIDOU'S MAIN CANNON.

ARE KASUGAICHI'S BATTERY GUTSY ENOUGH TO FIGHT HIM?





THEY TOTALLY SHOULD FIGHT HERE.
JUST SHUT HIM DOWN AND KILL THEIR OPPONENTS' MOMENTUM!

NERA~!
LI~CHI~
♫

「ダイヤのA（エース） act（アクト）II」
第⑪・⑫巻発売中（かんはつばいちゅう）!!

ダイヤのA（エース） act II

CHAPTER 29

EXPECTATIONS OR ASPIRATIONS?

寺嶋裕二（てらじまゆうじ）

Previously Seidou's starting pitcher Sawamura has finished the top of the 3rd in 3 batters, while scoring **something**. In the bottom, Haruichi's hit brought Seidou a first run. To make use of the chance with no outs and a runner on second, Miyuki takes the plate! Will Seidou score even more?

BALL!

THE COURSE WAS ALMOST IN THE ZONE,

BUT IT STILL MISSES, AND THE COUNT NOW IS 3 BALLS, NO STRIKES.

OUTSIDE, OUTSIDE, AND AGAIN OUTSIDE...

THE CATCHER'S DEFEATIST ATTITUDE BECOMES CONTAGEOUS WHEN HE CALLS SUCH COWARDLY PITCHES, AND HIS PITCHER'S SPIRIT INEVITABLY GETS WEAKENED, TOO.

THEY'RE TOTALLY GOING OVERBOARD WITH THE AMOUNT OF CAUTION.

OR ARE THEY JUST RUNNING AWAY FROM THE FIGHT?

AH~~ THIS ONE WAS NOWHERE NEAR THE ZONE, HUH.

WELL. CAN'T BE HELPED UNDER THESE CIRCUM-STANCES, I GUESS

BALL FOUR !!!

1 0 1

Tch

THE BASES ARE NOW LOADED!!!

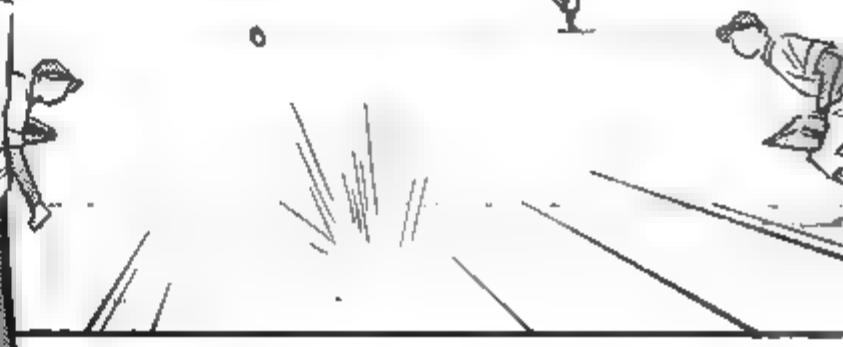
IT'S ENOUGH IF YOU STAY AND WATCH, TAKAMI.

I PERSONALLY AM NOT INTERESTED IN WATCHING A COWARDLY BATTERY CHICKEN OUT LIKE THAT WHERE IT REALLY COUNTS.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO WATCH UNTIL THE END, KOUSE!...?

AND IF SEIDOU'S BATTING LINEUP FAILS TO EXPLOIT THIS CHANCE TO THE FULLEST,

THEN THEY'RE NO THREAT TO US EITHER.



青道

3

3

毎週火曜日発売
ゴルゴ
GOLGO
TOKYO
4

HELL YEAH!

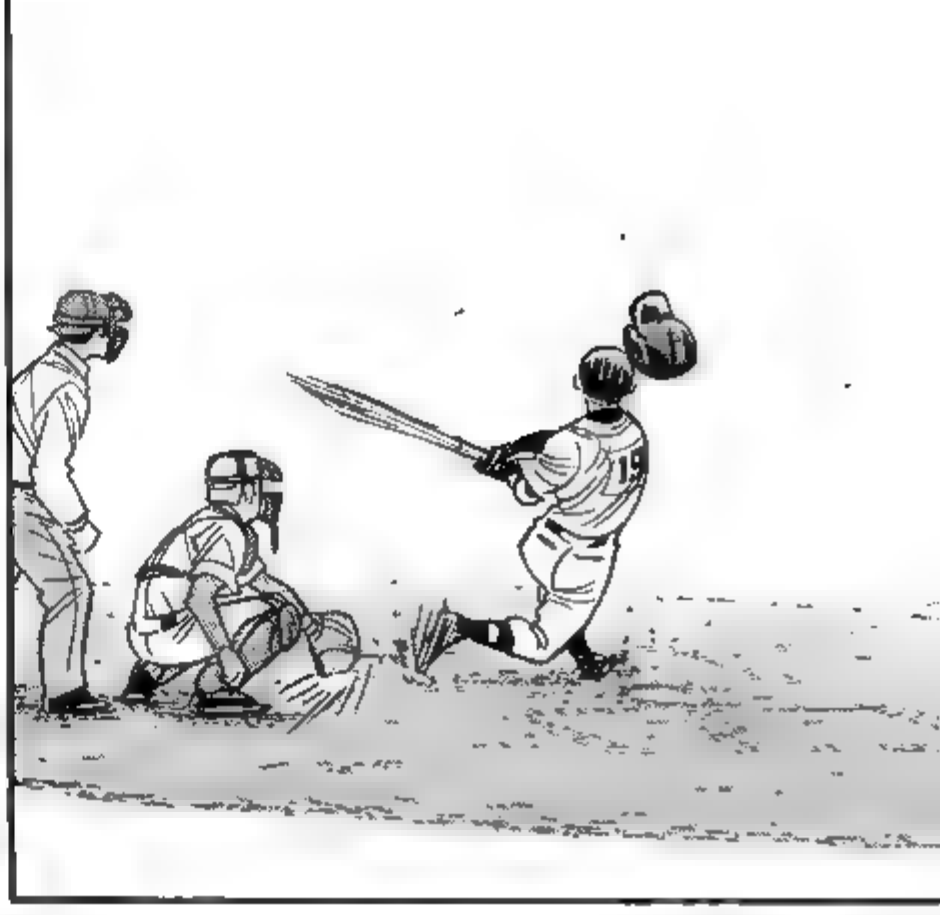
More RBIs for you.

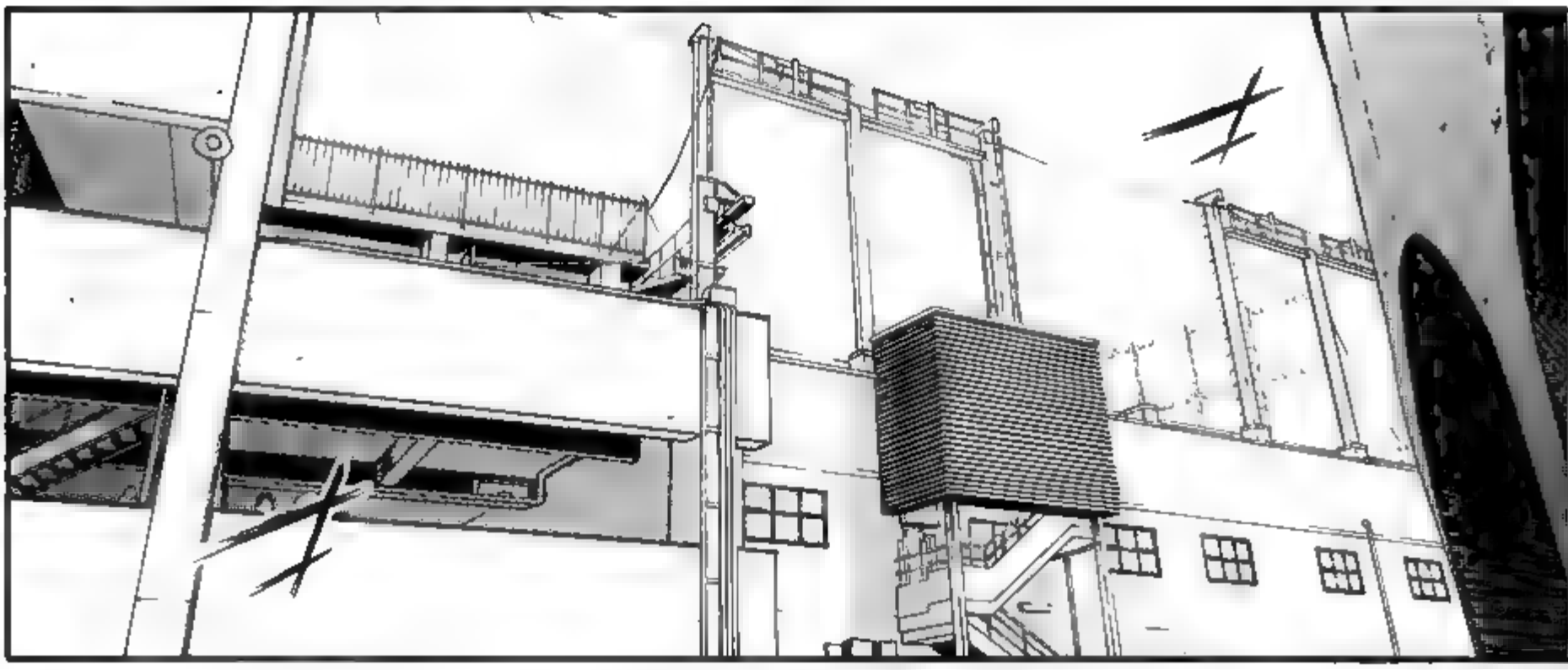
TOKYO

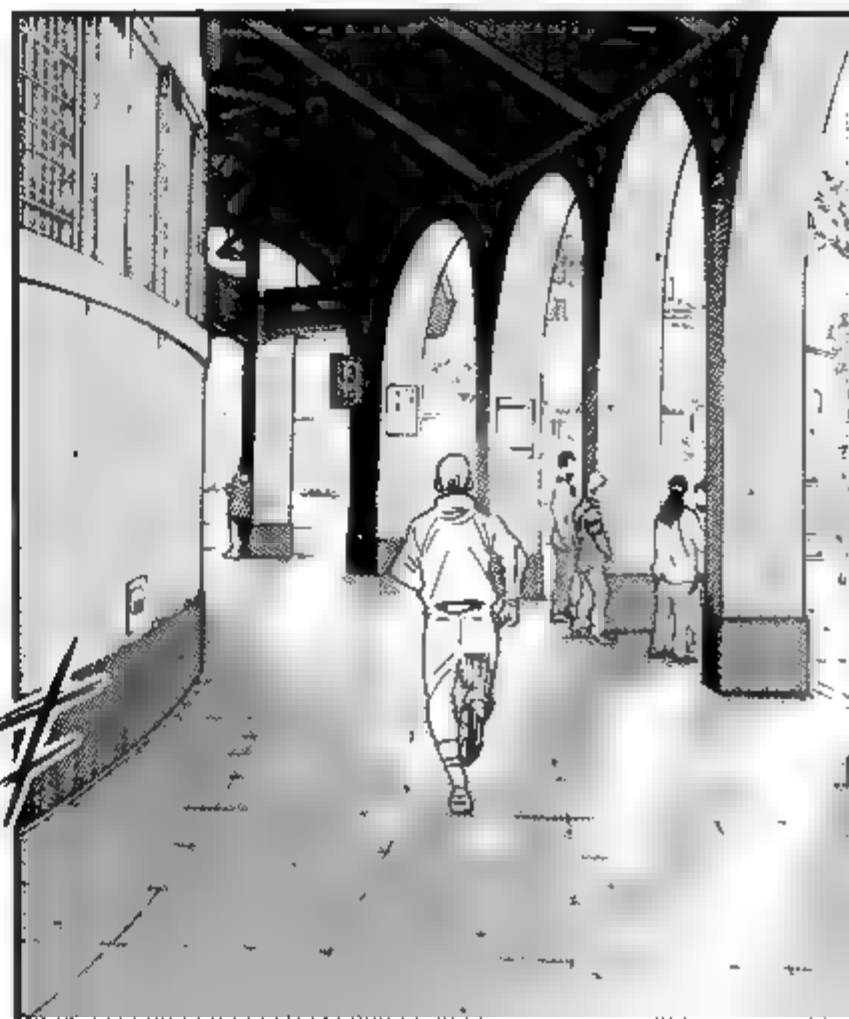
16

TOKYO

I'M ROOMING WITH THE GUYS FROM THE MAIN FORCE I'M IN THE SAME ROOM AS THEM.







SEIDOU'S BATTING LINEUP HAD GAINED THE MOMENTUM FROM THEIR OFFENSE IN THE 3RD

AND SCORED ADDITIONAL RUNS IN THE 4TH, AS WELL, WIDENING THE SCORE GAP TO 6 RUNS.

Round National High School Baseball Tournament Tournament th Day (Date 4/20)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	It
Kasugaichi	0	0	0	0									
Seidou	0	0	4	2									

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Ichidaisan													
Niougakusha Daifu													

AND THEN, IN THE TOP OF THE 5TH...

...SAWAMURA'S PITCHING SUDDENLY DESTABILIZED, RESULTING IN A WALK AND A DEAD BALL.

THE GAME SITUATION ROLLED DOWNHILL ALL THE WAY DOWN TO 2 OUTS AND BASES LOADED,

I am deeply sorry!

Get over it!

It's OK!

MAKING FOR THE BIGGEST CRISIS SEIDOU HAD FACED IN THAT GAME YET.

BUT IT'S STILL A BIG GAIN THAT WE COULD TEST IT IN AN ACTUAL DANGEROUS GAME SITUATION...

ASKING HIM TO THROW TO THIS SPOT WAS TOO SOON, HUH.

WHEN HE CAN THROW [illegible] AT THOSE KINDS OF CRUCIAL MOMENTS ONLY THEN WE'LL BE ABLE TO SAY THAT THIS PITCH HAS TRULY BECOME PART OF HIS REPERTOIRE.

FROM NOW ON HE WILL BE ASKED TO PITCH IN SITUATIONS THAT WILL BE EVEN MORE DANGEROUS, NO DOUBT

COME ON LET'S END IT AND GET YOU BACK IN SHAPE WITH A NICE STRAIGHT FASTBALL

FOR IT, HE NEEDS TO IMPROVE THE PRECISION OF IT FIRST.

HITS ALLOWED: 3

WALKS & DEAD BALLS GIVEN UP: 2

STRIKE-OUTS TAKEN: 7

RUNS LOST: 0 IN 5 INNINGS

THESE WERE SAWAMURA'S PITCHING STATS ON THAT DAY---

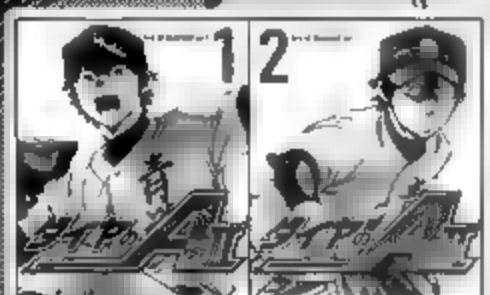
STARTING FROM THE TOP OF THE 6TH,
SEIDOU'S ACE TOOK THE MOUND---
LET'S SEE WHICH WAY THE CAT JUMPS WITH HIM TODAY...
春日一高

ダイヤのA act II

CHAPTER 30

AT THE END OF THE GAZE

寺嶋裕二



『ダイヤのA act II』
第①・②巻好評発売中!!
第③巻は5月17日(火)発売!!

Previously: In the quarterfinal of the Spring tournament Seidou overwhelms Kashigaich scoring 6 runs by the 4th. In the 5th Sawamura, who pitched well and gave up no runs, is switched and the ace Furuya, takes the mound...

K
K

THE FLAMETHROWER, WHOSE PERFORMANCE AT SENBATSU WAS UNFORGETTABLE, STATES HIS CASE LOUD AND CLEAR!

2 outs!

THE 6TH INNING WAS OVER IN 3 HITTERS,

AND IN THE 7TH, SEIDOU HAS ALREADY TAKEN 2 OUTS!

HE'S STILL STRAINING MORE THAN NECESSARY, BUT HIS SHAPE ITSELF ISN'T BAD.

HE'S NOT THROWING WHERE I WANT HIM TO,

BUT IT'S NOT LIKE HIS PITCHES ARE MISSING THE ZONE WIDE EITHER ...

...JUST SHUTS EVERYONE DOWN WITH THE SHEER POWER OF HIS PITCHES ALONE...

I HAVE TO COME UP WITH TRICKS AND STUFF TO BE EFFECTIVE, BUT THIS BASTARD...

2 OUTS!

2 OUTS, FURUYA!

SO TODAY HE'S HAVING A GOOD DAY, FOR HIM.

HYAHA

NOT THERE YET.

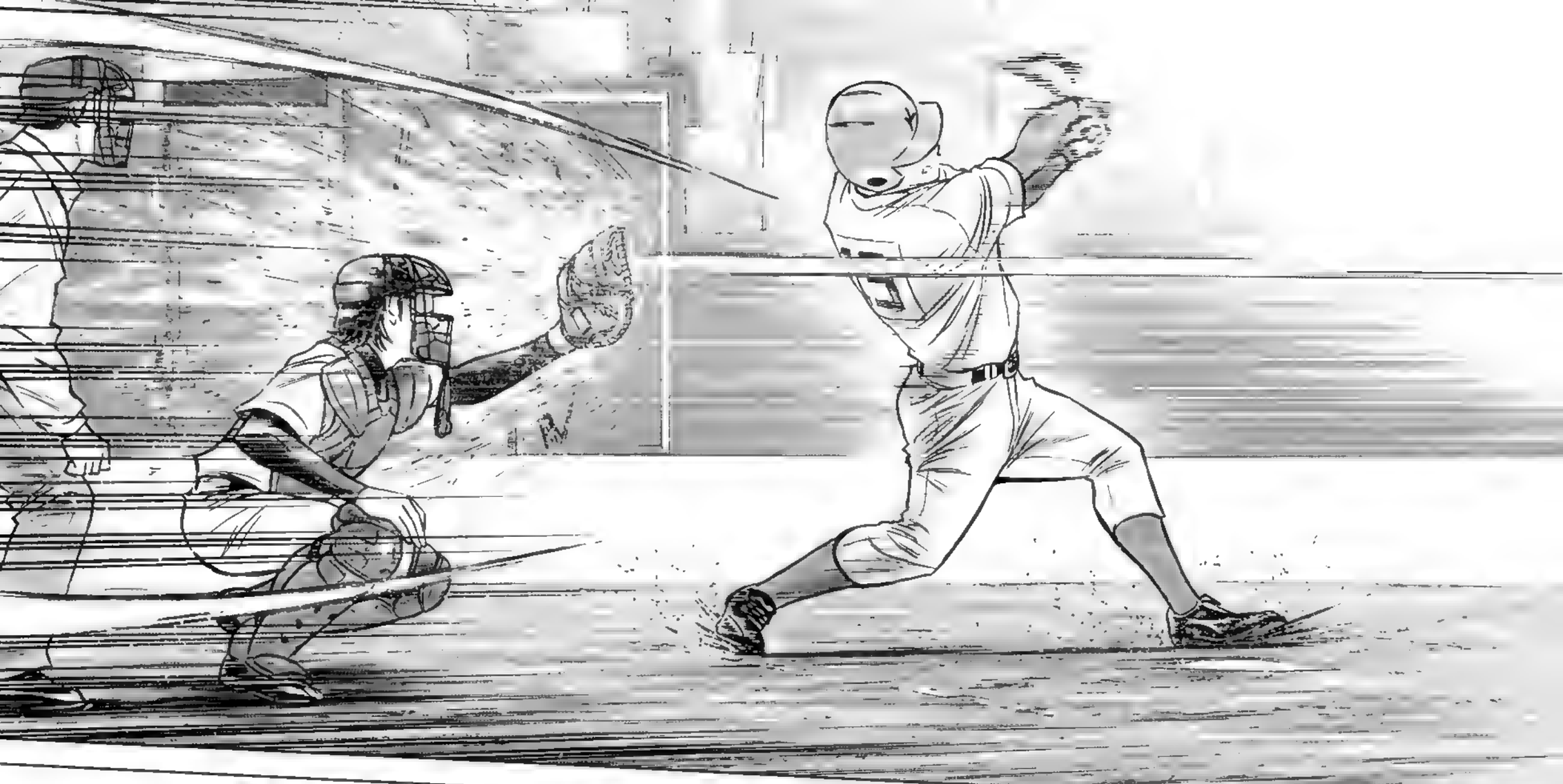
FUH

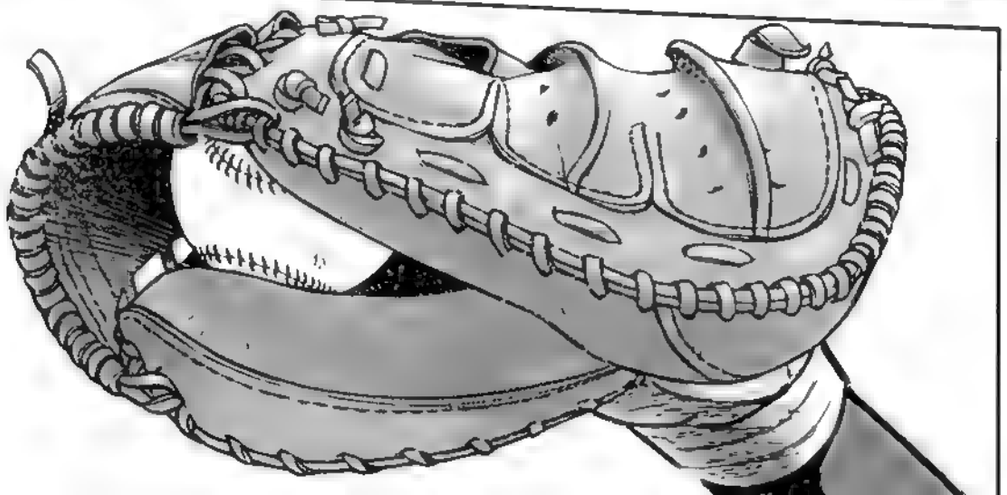
I KNOW I CAN STILL SWITCH TO A HIGHER GEAR.

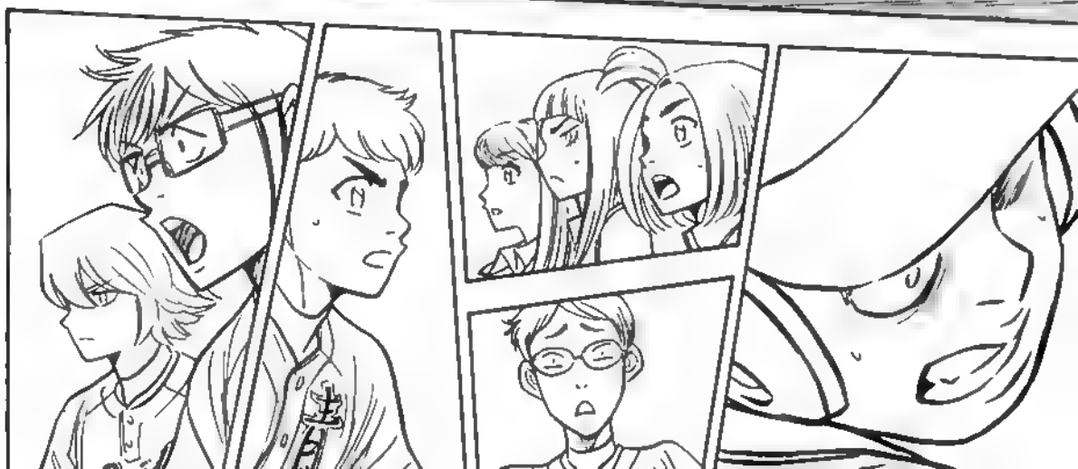
ON THAT DAY,

I WAS MORE ...

MORE







STRIKE! BATTER OUT!

A SWINGING STRIKEOUT ON A HIGH FASTBALL!

HELL YEAH!

...NO.

HE REALLY HAS CHANGED SINCE WE RETURNED FROM KOUSHIEN, AS I SUSPECTED, THEN...?

NOT FROM KOUSHIEN IN GENERAL BUT FROM THAT MATCH AGAINST KOMADAI!!

I'LL PITCH IN THE WAY THAT WILL GIVE US THE CHANCE TO PLAY AT THIS KOUSHIEN FOR EVEN A MATCH MORE.

SO I WILL BE COUNTING ON YOUR SUPPORT AGAIN TOMORROW.

I WAS ABLE TO GROW BECAUSE I CAME HERE

AND I THINK THAT I CAN STILL GROW MORE.

BUT AFTER KOUSHIEN, IT LOOKS TO ME

—LIKE HE WENT BACK TO THAT FIXATION OF HIS ONLY ON HIS PITCHES AGAIN...

BEFORE THAT GAME HE BOWED TO THE TEAM, SHOWING HIS RELIANCE ON US

AND UNMISTAKABLY GROWING AS AN ACE

OR...

IS THIS A GOOD KIND OF CHANGE ...?

THE LAST PITCH WAS A GOOD ONE, I THINK...

Ugh
muh
muh
muh

HAVE YOU HIT ANYTHING TODAY YOURSELF THOUGH?

SHUT UP!

WE CAN'T RELAX OUR GUARD NO MATTER HOW BIG OUR LEAD IS!

ARE YOU ONE TO TALK THOUGH?

Here your drink

YOUR AT-BAT'S COMING IN THIS INNING, SO GO AND SCORE US SOME RUNS!

HEY! FURUYA! DON'T GET ON YOUR HIGH HORSE! THERE'S NO WAY THE OPPONENTS JUST LET IT END LIKE THIS!

楽天
K

楽天

I-IT'S OUT OF THE PARK!

A 2 RUN GAME-ENDING HOMERUN FOR THE 7TH BATTER, YUUKI!

	一	二	三	四	五	六	七	八	九
春	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
青	0	0	4	2	0	0	2		

THE SCORE GAP IS AS BIG AS 8 RUNS IN THE BOTTOM OF THE 7TH,

SO THE GAME IS NOW OFFICIALLY CALLED,

WITH THE WALKOFF HOMERUN SCORED BY NONE OTHER THAN A FIRST YEAR WHO HAS JUST BARELY JOINED THE TEAM!

HE HAS REPEATED THE DEBUT RECORD OF HIS OLDER BROTHER,

A FIRST HOMERUN IN HIS FIRST OFFICIAL GAME...

4 MONTHS EARLIER, AT THAT.

HE COULDN'T FIGURE OUT THE TIMING FOR THE PITCHER'S BREAKING BALLS AT ALL

BUT DIDN'T LET IT AFFECT HIS SWING AND IN THE END MADE IT WORK JUST PERFECT.

It's over already...

LET'S GO!

WE NEED TO LINE UP!

AND HERE I WAS SURE THAT I WOULD BE FIRST TO SCORE A HIT AMONG THE FIRST YEARS ...

THAT LITTLE...! HE ACTUALLY WENT AND HIT!

HE'S RECORDED ACTUAL RESULTS!

ゴゴゴ

...

...

SEIDOU - KASUGAICHI

8 - 0

(CALLED AFTER 7 INNINGS)

SEIDOU HIGH ADVANCES TO THE SEMIFINALS

SEE?

BUG OFF, THERE'S NOTHING TO "SEE"!

Is their game finally over_?

DAMN, A CALLED GAME AGAINST KASUGAICHI, HUH?

SEIDOU'S NO JOKE, MAN

THAT GUY BATTED FOURTH FOR KOKUBUN SENIOR.

THE ONE TO DELIVER THE FINISHING BLOW WAS A FIRST YEAR?

HEY, YOUR BAG!

THEY'RE DANGEROUS ALRIGHT.

TWO OF THEIR MAIN FORCE PITCHERS HAD THEIR TURN, AND THE DRAMATIC FINISHING HOMERUN WAS DELIVERED BY A FIRST YEAR, A NEW ADDITION STRENGTHENING THEIR LINEUP...

ICHIDAISAN HIGH HEAD COACH

TAHARA TOSHIHIKO

THE WAY THEY WIN THEIR GAMES GIVES OFF THE DISTINCT CHAMPION VIBE.

第③巻は5月17日(火)発売!!
『ダイヤのA act II』
第⑪・⑫巻好評発売中!!

Ace of Diamond act II

CHAPTER 31

THE OTHER PLACES' ACES

寺嶋裕二

Previously: Sawamura gave up no runs, Furuya, who switched with him for the 6th and 7th innings, lost no runs either. Seidou destroyed Kasugaichi in a called game and advanced to the 4 best teams. The next match is Yokidai vs Niou Gakusha, with the winner being Seidou's opponent in the semifinal...

ICHIDAISAN
(WEST TOKYO)
VS
NIOU GAKUSHA DAIFU
(EAST TOKYO)

TOKYO METROPOLITAN SPRING TOURNAMENT

SECOND QUARTERFINAL

ALTHOUGH THE RUNNER ADVANCED TO THIRD,

OH— THAT WAS CLOSE

That was too close to comfort!!

NIOU GAKUSHA COULDN'T TURN THEIR CHANCE INTO TANGIBLE RESULTS IN THIS INNING EITHER.

RIGHT TO THE THIRD BASEMAN.

THE SCORE HAS YET TO BE OPEN,

WITH THE ACES OF BOTH TEAMS DEMONSTATING TENACITY IN THEIR PITCHING.

C'MON! WE GOTTA MOVE ON TO THE NEXT PLAY!

RIGHT!

NIOH GAKUSHA'S ACE IS GOOD, AIN'T HE.

HIS STUFF HAS SPEED.

ICHIDAI'S BATTERS END UP SWINGING LATE SO FAR.

HELL YEAH!

YEAH, THIS IS DEFINITELY NOT THE PERFORMANCE THAT CAN USUALLY BE EXPECTED FROM HIM...

HE'S NOT EVEN THROWING HIS SLIDER MUCH...

AMAHISA KOUSEI, ON THE OTHER HAND...

For some reason, I just can't...

HE'S NOT GIVING UP RUNS ALRIGHT, BUT NEITHER IS HE PERFORMING ANYTHING ABOVE LUCKLASTER.

AND HE'S LOOKING PUZZLED HIMSELF ABOUT IT.

WITH THE GAME SITUATION BEING LIKE THIS, WHICH TEAM SCORES FIRST WILL BE CRUCIAL.

SO YOU GUYS MAKE SURE YOU KEEP YOUR EYES WIDE OPEN.

ANY OF THESE CAN SEAL THE OUTCOME OF SUCH A MATCH ON THE SPOT.

A LAPSE OF JUDGEMENT...

A SINGLE ERROR ...

THE GAME FLOW ...

HELL YEAH!

AND THE DETERMINED LOOK ON HIS FACE IS PRAISE-WORTHY. SURE REMINDS ME OF A CERTAIN SOMEONE.

NOT FEELING TIMID IN THE LEAST GOING UP AGAINST ICHIDAI'S BATTING LINEUP, EH.

HE'S GOING ALL OUT, NO HOLDS BARRED.

OHHH, A RELENTLESS ATTACK ON THE INSIDE!

BUT THE GAME IS ENTERING ITS SECOND HALF NOW.

SO THE QUESTION IS, WHAT KIND OF PITCHES WOULD BE A GOOD CHOICE TO CALL FROM NOW ON.

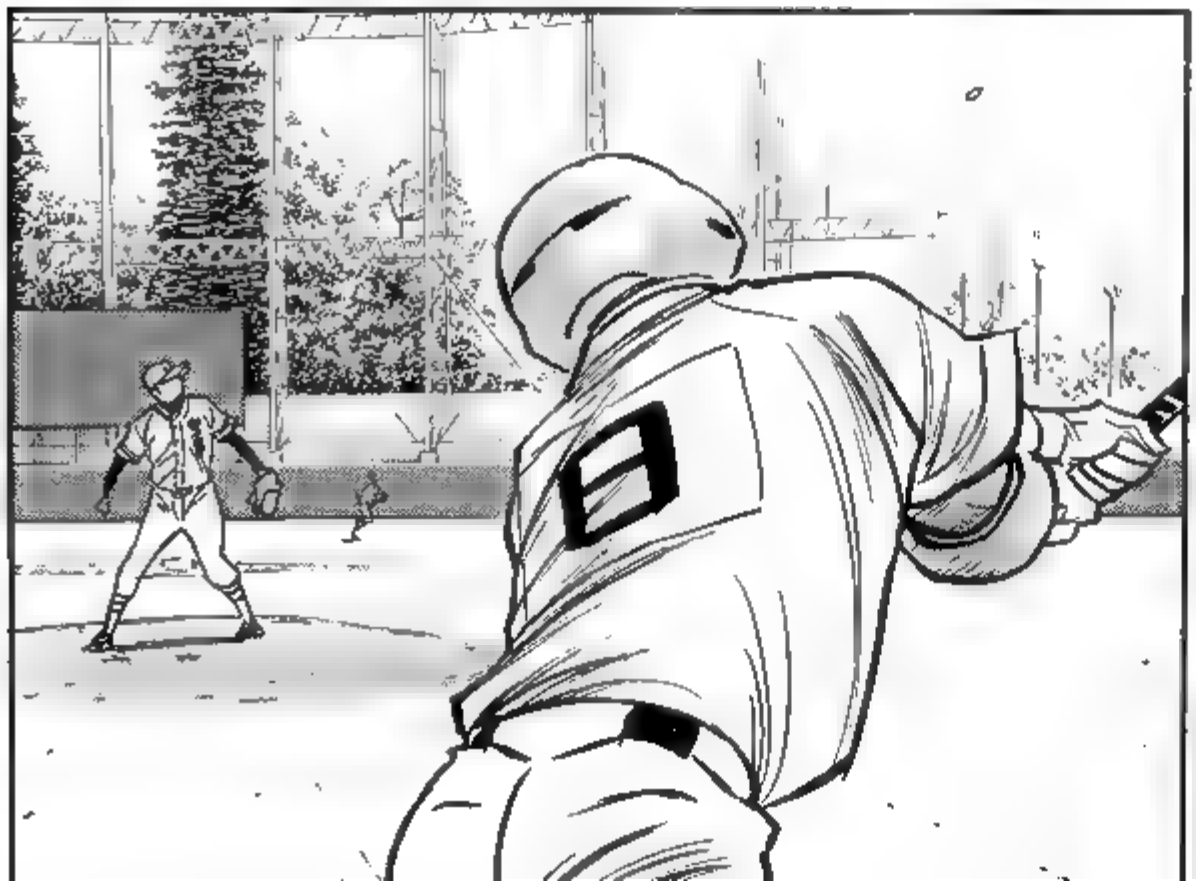
Hmph Hmph

THROWING STRIKES TO QUICKLY INCREASE THE STRIKE COUNT

MAY HAVE BEEN AN EFFECTIVE STRATEGY IN THE FIRST HALF, BUT IF THEY KEEP IT UP IN THE SECOND HALF...

N

王学舎



IT'S OUT OF THE PARK!!!

...ICHIDAI'S BATTERS WILL HAVE ADAPTED TO IT BY NOW.

THE STALEMATE IS NOW SOUNDLY BROKEN

WITH THE INITIATIVE-SEIZING HOMERUN BY THE THIRD BATTER, MIYAGAWA!

BUT THEN AGAIN, THAT HOMER MIGHT HAVE BEEN A FLUKE.

IF NIOU CAN STOP ICHIDAI FROM SCORING ANY MORE RUNS HERE, A CHANCE WILL COME THEIR WAY, TOO.

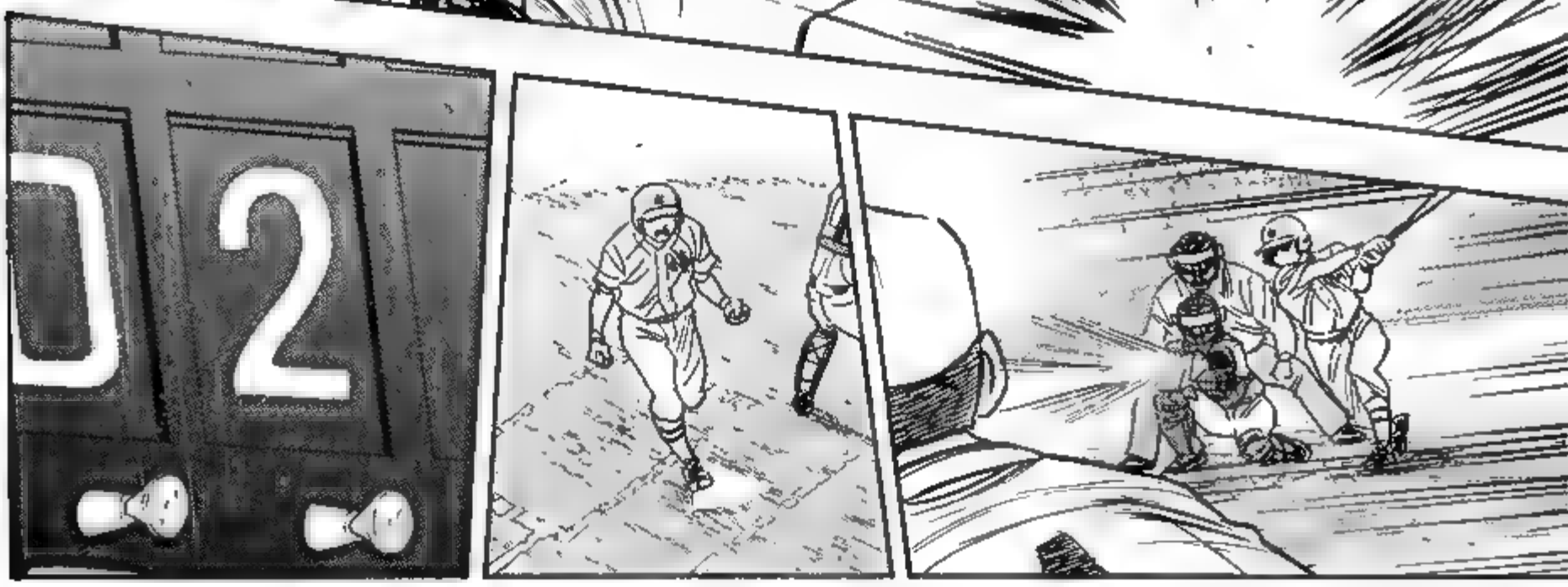
Ohh

WHAT IS HE, A PROPHET?!

What did I tell you?

AND THAT SMUG FACE HE'S MAKING...

TOKYO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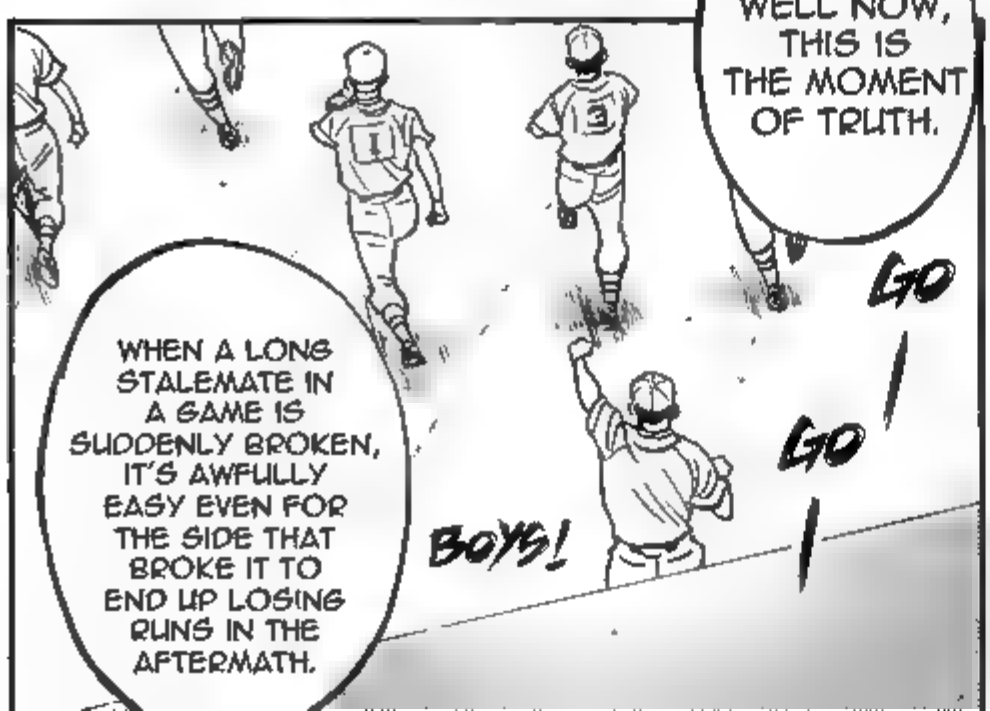

WELL NOW, THIS IS THE MOMENT OF TRUTH.
WHEN A LONG STALEMATE IN A GAME IS SUDDENLY BROKEN, IT'S AWFULLY EASY EVEN FOR THE SIDE THAT BROKE IT TO END UP LOSING RUNS IN THE AFTERMATH.
GO!
GO!
BOYS!

Ohh...
Nothing less from them...
They must be real happy about that extra run.
TOKYO

IF ICHIDAI CAN FINISH THIS INNING NICE AND CLEAN, THEY'LL BE ABLE TO COMPLETELY TURN THE TIDE IN THEIR FAVOR.

ACTUALLY...

MORE THAN ENOUGH ALREADY...

..JUST 1 RUN WOULD HAVE BEEN

NIOU'S BATTERS DID ATTEMPT TO COUNTER-ATTACK,

BUT AMAHISA KEPT RAKING UP STRIKEOUTS WITH HIS SLIDER.

THAT JERK.

HE STEPPED UP HIS GAME BY MILES.

IN THE END, FROM THE 5TH INNING ONWARDS, AMAHISA COMPLETELY SHUT OUT NIOU GAKUSHA

WITH SOME PERFECT PITCHING, NOT ALLOWING A SINGLE RUNNER REACH SECOND.

WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING LOSING CONFIDENCE RIGHT BEFORE THE MATCH?!!

I DIDN'T NEED TO HEAR THAT EITHER

NO, GUYS, SERIOUSLY, THAT SLIDER CROSSES BEYOND THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL, I'M TELLING YOU.

THAT SLIDER REALLY IS SOMETHING ELSE.

SINCE SEIDOU AND ICHIOAI'S LAST FATED MATCHUP IN TOURNAMENTS, I MEAN.

WE HAD IT 2 YEARS IN A ROW.

COME TO THINK OF IT, IT'S BEEN A YEAR ALREADY, EH.

IS THERE ANYONE WHO CAN EVEN HIT THAT?

AMAHISA-SAN IS AWESOME.

I'M SO GONNA LINE UP FOR SOME TICKETS.

THE SEMIS ARE GONNA BE HOT AS HELL!

THE OTHER MATCHUP IS INAJITSU VS TEITOU.

FINAL

APRIL 27 (SUN)

MEIJI JINGU 2ND ST

THE SPRING TOURNAMENT HAD ONLY HAD THE SEMIFINAL AND FINAL MATCHES LEFT.

NO, I WOULDN'T SAY THAT... LAST SPRING, MANAKA-SAN SIMPLY WASN'T IN HIS TOP CONDITION...

SO I DO NOT THINK OF THE UPCOMING GAME AS "FATED" IN ANY WAY.

2 TEAMS THAT WOULD MAKE IT TO THE FINAL WOULD BE AWARDED THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE KANTO TOURNAMENT,

BUT A TEAM'S RESULTS IN THE SPRING TOURNAMENT WOULD NOT BEAR A DIRECT INFLUENCE ON ITS CHANCES IN THE SCRAMBLE FOR SUMMER KOUSHIEN.

SEIDOU HIGH

INASHIRO JITSUGYO

ICHIDAISAN HIGH

TEITOU HIGH

STILL, 3 OUT OF 4 SEMINAFINALISTS WERE TEAMS FROM WEST TOKYO.

AS LONG AS THEIR HAVING TO PLAY EACH OTHER AGAIN IN THE SUMMER TOURNAMENT WAS PROBABLE, NONE OF THEM WANTED TO REVEAL MORE INFORMATION THAN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY ON THEMSELVES OR THEIR WEAKNESSES TO THEIR POTENTIAL OPPONENTS.

Hey! Don't leave me out!

BUT NONE OF THEM INTENDED TO LOSE ANYWAY.

THERE WAS STILL A NEXT TIME EVEN AFTER A DEFEAT.

WITH THE SUMMER TOURNAMENT IN MIND, THE SPRING ONE WAS BOUND TO BECOME A VIOLENT CLASH OF EACH SCHOOL'S RESPECTIVE PRIDE.

I BELIEVE EVEN ICHIDAI'S BATTING LINEUP WOULD HAVE TROUBLE DEALING WITH THE PITCHING FURUYA DEMOSTRATED TODAY.

HOWEVER, THERE IS NO DENYING THAT HE STILL STRAINS TOO MUCH WHEN HE THROWS.

EH?

...MAYBE WE SHOULD LIMIT HIS USE TO RELIEVING ONLY FOR THE TIME BEING THEN.

TH-THEN WHO WILL BE THE STARTING PITCHER?

AS SUCH, I CANNOT SAY WHAT WILL BECOME OF HIM IF HE IS TO PITCH FOR LONG.

……!

……

……

HEY, KOU-SHUU!

WHAT IS IT?

DID YOU EAT YOUR RICE?!

ばったり

Ugh

……

FUHAHAHAHA! A HEAPING HELPING CAN'T BE CALLED HEAPING IF IT'S NOT MOUNTAIN HIGH!

...

DID YOU HEAP THEM UP HIGH?!

HEY!

YES, ALL 3...

ALL 3 BOWLS ?!

YES, I DID.

I FORGOT !!!

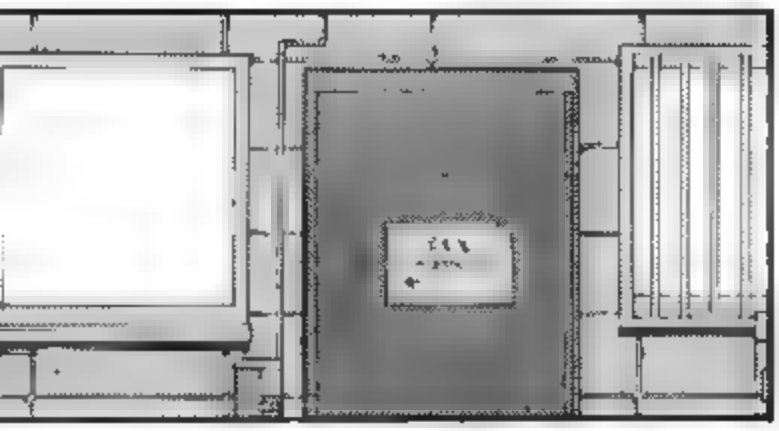
SAWAMURA-SENPAI, LET'S GO!

SPEAKING OF, WHY DID YOU EVEN COME HERE?!

SO THE SENPAI DOES HOLD A GRUDGE OVER WHAT HAPPENED THE OTHER DAY—

BE QUIET ..

YOU WEAKLING EATER!



...

YOU DIDN'T PITCH MUCH TODAY, SO IT MUST BE NOT ENOUGH TO YOU, NO?

FUKUYA-SAN.

I'M AT YOUR SERVICE WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT, YOU KNOW.

ダイヤのA

I'M AT YOUR SERVICE WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT.

YOU KNOW...

STEP 1 act II

CHAPTER 30:
PLAYING CATCH

BUT THAT ASIDE, I'M SURPRISED THAT HE WANTS TO REVIEW A GAME HE PITCHED IN HIMSELF...

Grrawr!

WOLF BRAT ...

...I SEE WHERE YOU'RE COMING FROM WITH THAT

RUNNING INTO THAT WOLF BRAT ALMOST MADE ME FORGOT MY ORIGINAL OBJECTIVE!

OH... THERE IT IS

GOOD THING I DECIDED TO DO MY PRACTICE SWINGING NEARBY IN CASE OF THIS KIND OF TROUBLE HAPPENING ..

ACTUALLY .. WHY DID YOU EVEN HAVE TO CHAT HIM UP WHEN YOU SAW HIM?

FACE?!

HE WAS JUST MAKING A FACE LIKE HE HAD SOMETHING TO SAY, SO.

NO SPECIAL REASON

THAT OBSESSION OF HIS WITH HEAPING HELPINGS IS NO JOKE.

WHAT'S UP WITH HIM, SERIOUSLY?

IT'S NO USE ASKING ME IF I'M IN THE DOME-SHAPED HEAPING CAMP OR IN THE FUJI-SAN-SHAPED HEAPING CAMP!

I NEVER THOUGHT OF SUCH A THING BEFORE!

TO BE HONEST, I'M DISAPPOINT-ED...

I HATE HIS TYPE. GUYS WHO ACT LIKE THEY OWN THE PLACE AND THROW SUGAR-COATED RUBBISH AT OTHERS...

YEAH, BUT .. WELL, WHEN IT COMES TO THAT GUY, THAT PRETTY RUBB SH . AND THAT OBSESSION, UH

I COULDN'T MAKE SENSE OF HIS TODAY'S BOUT EITHER ...

..MNN .. WHAT WAS EVEN THAT, ANYWAY?

SPEAKING OF, HE WAS ROARING WITH LAUGHTER THE WHOLE TIME, WASN'T HE .

WELL... I BROKE IT WHEN I WAS PLAYING SOCCER DURING THE SUMMER BREAK

WHAT WERE YOU THINK-ING?

YES, I KNOW, AND I'M REALLY ASHAMED

BUT I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD END UP WITH A LEG FRACTURE FROM THAT.

SOCCER ?!

THANK YOU.

THE AMOUNT OF FOOD IS NO JOKE EITHER.

YES, MY LEG IS FINE, BUT IT'S NO EASY

TO MAKE UP FOR THE GROUND I LOST BECAUSE OF COMING HERE LATER THAN EVERYONE ELSE

BUT YOU'RE OK NOW, RIGHT?

WELL, IN ANY CASE I CAN'T HELP FEELING UNEASY.

THERE IS NOW A GUY AMONG US FIRST YEARS WHO'S ALREADY HIT A HOMER.

EVEN NOW, FINISHING ALL 3 BOWLS STILL TAKES TIME.

I WAS SUFFERING FROM THAT AT FIRST, TOO.

WHAT'S MORE, 2 FIRST YEARS MAKING SEIDOU REGULARS THIS FAST AFTER JOINING BECAME QUITE THE MOTIVATOR FOR THE REST.

KUKI YOUHEI

(1ST YEAR)

I, TOO, WANT TO MAKE IT WHERE THEY ARE NOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

HE SURE IS BEING HARD ON HIMSELF WITH ALL THAT SELF-CRITICISM...

...

Hey! careful with the first pitch!

IF A PITCH CLEARLY MISSES THE ZONE BY THAT MUCH, NATURALLY NO BATTER WOULD SWING ON IT!

ALL I DID THERE WAS WORSEN THE COUNT MEANING-LESSLY.

THOSE AWFUL 4 BALLS!

AH, SEE?! THERE!

TODAY, I WAS DOING FINE UNTIL NUMBER 5

"NUMBER 5"?

HMM, IN MY CASE IT'S NOT QUITE ABOUT TYPES OF PITCHES .

IT'S MORE ABOUT GRIPS.

SENPAI, HOW MANY TYPES OF PITCHES CAN YOU THROW?

AH! THERE! THAT DEADBALL!

AW!

MY CONTROL WASN'T GOOD ENO--

BUT WHEN I GOT TO NUMBERS 7 AND 8 ..

IT MEANS THAT I STRAINED SOME PART OF MY BODY THAT I REALLY SHOULDN'T HAVE...

BUT WHAT PART ...? THE SHOULDER ...? THE FINGER-TIPS...?

THIS IS WHAT A PITCHER OF THE TEAM THAT WENT TO KOUSHIEN IS LIKE...

HE THINKS ABOUT SO MANY THINGS DESPITE THROWING AT SUCH HIGH PACE...

WHAT KIND OF PITCHES DOES HE THROW, I WONDER ....

UMM...

AH.. WELL ...

I WANT TO SEE THEM UPCLOSE ...

AND BEING A PITCHER MYSELF, I WANT TO TRY CATCHING THEM.

HUH?
WHERE'S FURUYA?

H-HE SAID HE NEEDED TO TAKE A WALK

AND LEFT ...

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR YOU TO GO TAKE A BATH, DON'T YOU MIND?

I SEE

I SHOULD GO THEN

YES, IT IS

...

I'LL PASS.

I WANT TO THROW, BUT...

IF I'M GOING TO, I'D RATHER HAVE MIYUKI-SENPAI CATCH FOR ME.

...EH?

RIGHT NOW,
I JUST WANT
TO PITCH AT EASE,
WITHOUT HAVING
TO HOLD BACK
OR ANYTHING.

HUH? RIGHT NOW?

KURAMOCHI-SENPAI, I'M OFF TO PLAY CATCH WITH ASADA, OK?

AH, SERIOUSLY? YOU CAN THROW CURVEBALL?

IF ANYTHING, ASADA INVITED ME HIMSELF!

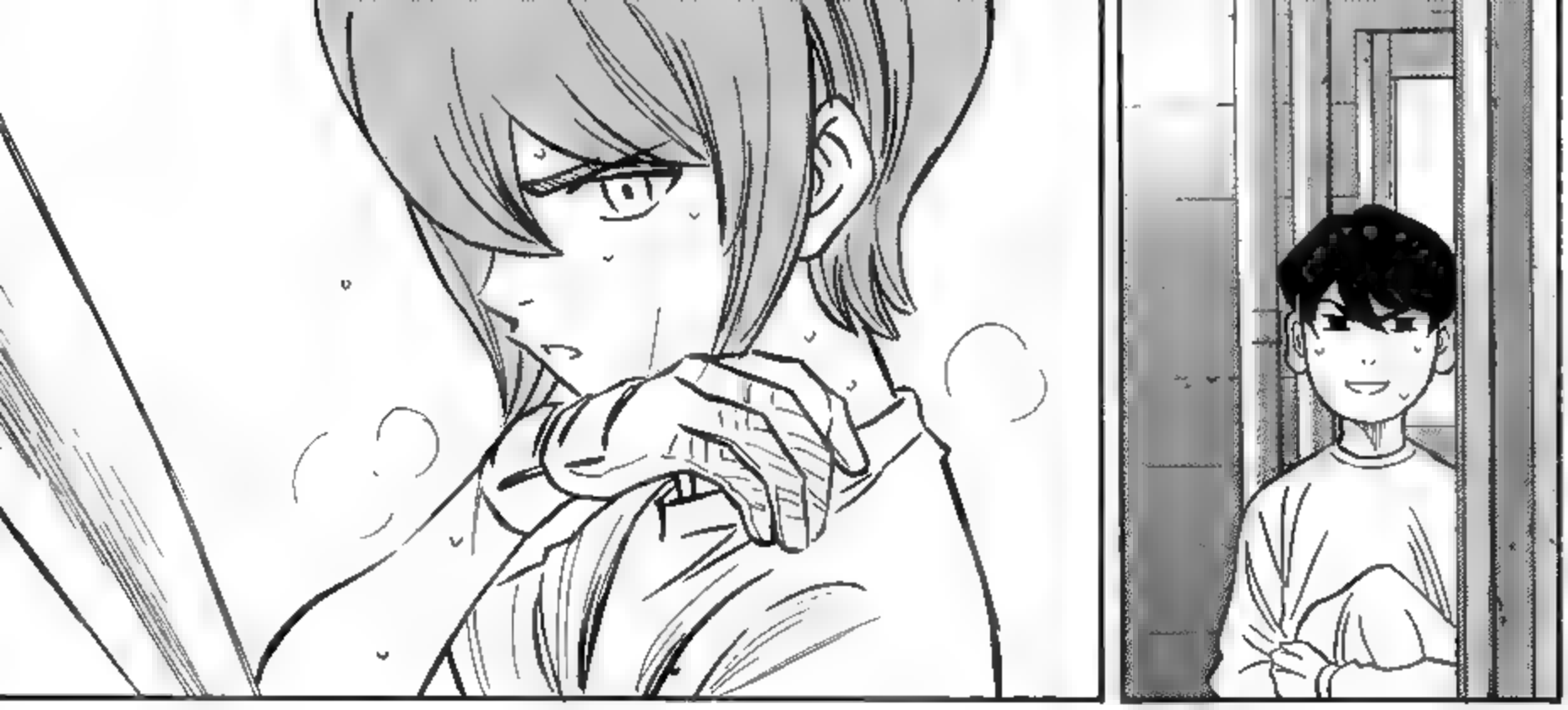
WE FORGOT THE LAST TIME, SO

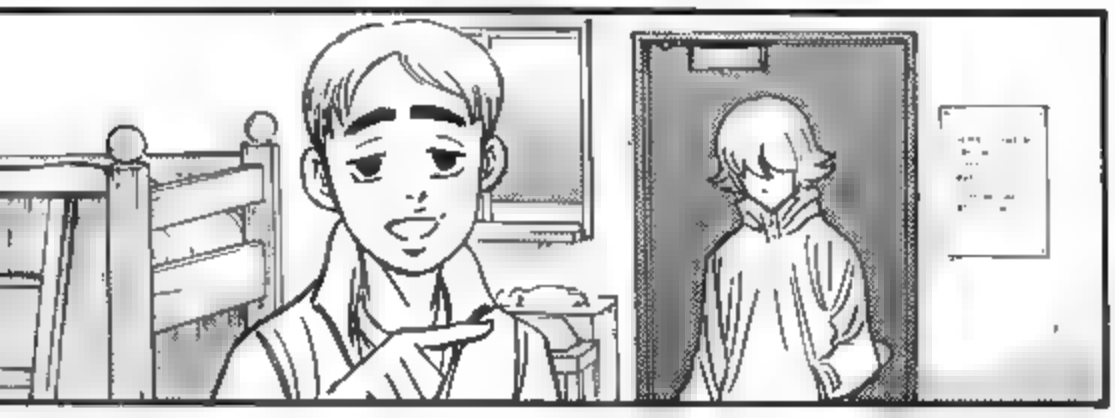
I'M NOT! HOW RUDE OF YOU!

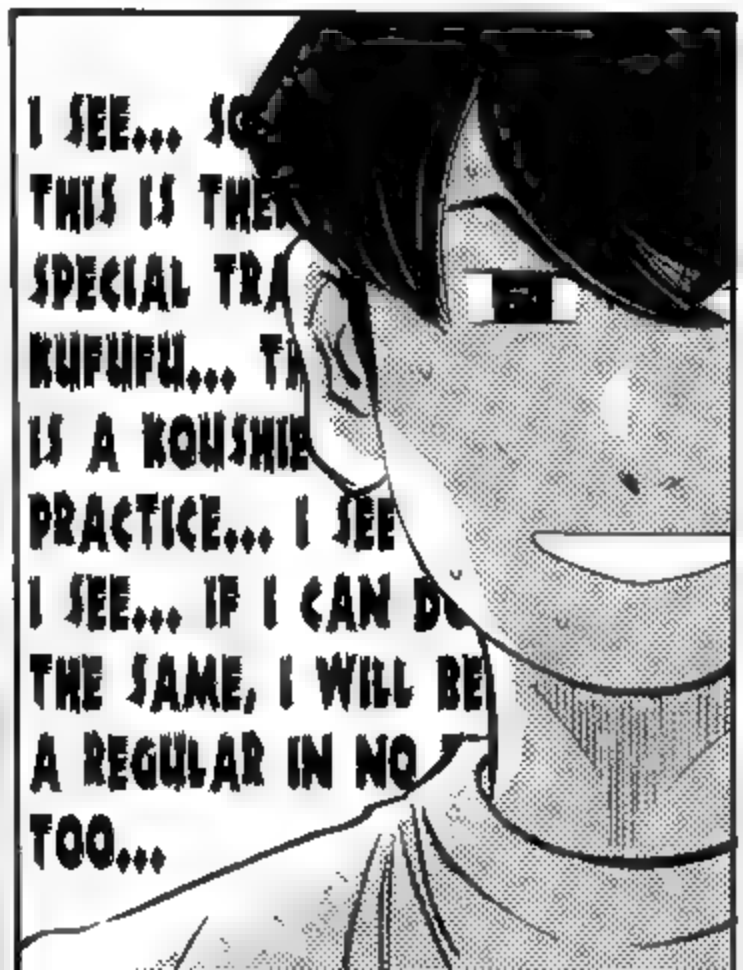
YOU'RE NOT FORCING HIM IN ANY WAY TO KEEP YOU COMPANY, I HOPE?

C'MON! LET'S GO!

Oh really...






I SEE... SO
THIS IS THE
SPECIAL TRA
KUFUFU... TH
IS A KOUSHIE
PRACTICE... I SEE
I SEE... IF I CAN D
THE SAME, I WILL BE
A REGULAR IN NO
TOO...

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beckon
ちょい

今日学べ

終始一訓

制覇

TRIPLE CROWN

PERFECT SHUTOUT

WIN

ぷん

YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BECOME THE BEST PITCHER IN JAPAN...

ダイヤのA
寺嶋裕二
ピピピピピ
ダイヤのA

ASADA !!!
ピピピピピ

...DA.
ピピピピピ

AH ...?
EH ...?

FOR YOU TO BE THE LAST ONE TO WAKE UP... TALK ABOUT UNUSUAL.
APOLOGIES! I'LL GET DRESSED RIGHT AWAY!

RISE AND SHINE !!!
HURRY UP, IT'S TIME FOR THE MORNING PRACTICE!

今日学べ

UWAAAH~ I WENT AND OVER-SLEPT.

I DION'T HEAR THE ALARM AT ALL...

BUT... I FEEL LIKE THIS WAS THE MOST FITFUL SLEEP I'VE GOTTEN IN AGES...

ガチャッ

WAHAHAHA

SO FULL OF ENER-GY.

OKA~Y THEN, LET'S DO OUR BEST TODAY AGAIN!!!

AND LEVEL UP WITH ALL OUR MIGHT~

Previously: Many new students joined Seidou's baseball team. Half a month later the relationship between the upper and underclassmen is progressing well, but Sawamura and Koushun as well as Furuya and Yui, don't get along too well.

ダイヤのA act II

CHAPTER·33
SELFISHNESS

てらじまゆうじ
寺嶋裕二

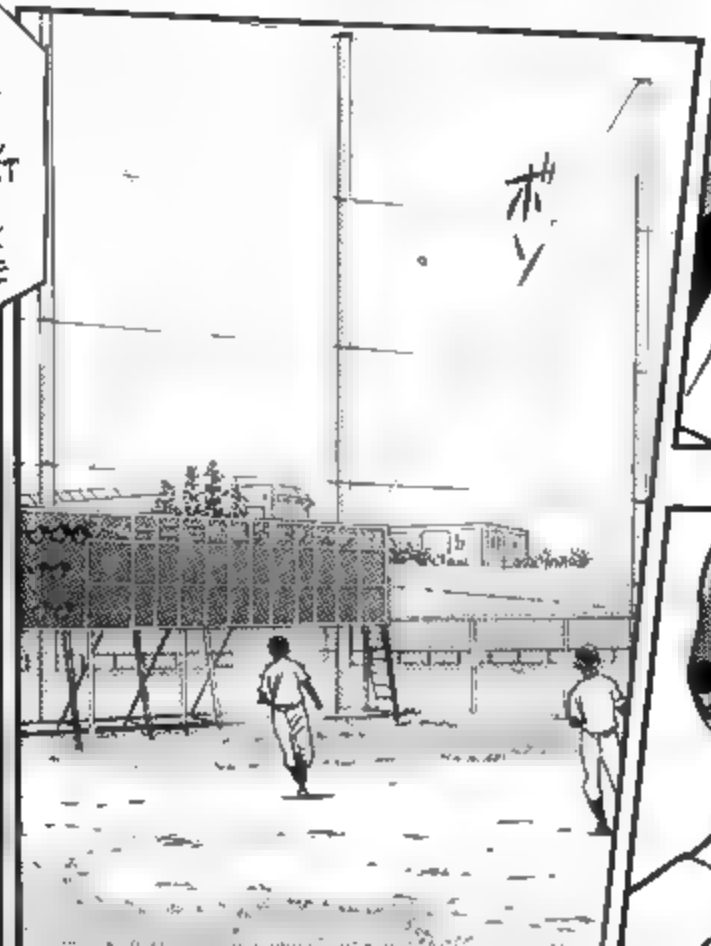
THERE COULDN'T HAVE BEEN ANY MORE AWFUL WAY TO BEGIN MY DAY!!!

DO YOU NEED SOME-THING?

PM 4:00

AFTERNOON PRACTICE

AS EXPECTED FROM SOMEONE WHO HIT A HOMER IN HIS DEBUT GAME.
OHHH. THAT'S MASASHI FOR YOU, SENDING IT OUT OF THE PARK WITH EASE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I THOUGHT THEY WERE GOING TO PRACTICE HITTING FAST PITCHES N PREPARATION TO FAC NG AMAHISA.

NOT RELYING ON POWER BUT INSTEAD MAKING SURE TO SW NG THE BAT ALL THE WAY IN FRONT OF THEM.

THAT'S PRETTY MUCH GOING BACK TO THE BASICS.

BUT THEY'RE POLISHING PRECISION OF HITTING SLOW ONES WITH A FULL SW NG FROM CENTER TO RIGHT,

HEY! WE'RE NOT PRACTICING HITTING FOR DISTANCE!

WAIT ON THE BALL A BIT LONGER AND HIT FROM CENTER TO RIGHT!

IS TRYING TO DO PRECISELY THAT

ONE OF THEM IS HITTING TO LEFT FOR POWER THOUGH.

IT'S YUI!

Oh

HE'S HITTING THROUGH CENTER NICE AND NEAT!

THE SPEED IS PRETTY HIGH, TOO.

BOTH OF HIS PARENTS ARE PETITE,

AND WITH THAT SHORT STATURE HE JUST MIGHT NOT MAKE IT IN HIGH SCHOOL.

YUI KAORU? WELL, I AGREE THAT HE IS A GOOD PLAYER, BUT...

Phew

FOR HAVING SUCH A SMALL STATURE, HE SURE PACKS A LOT OF POWER.

I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT OTHERS CAN RIDICULE MY HEIGHT ALL THEY WANT, I JUST NEEDED TO SHUT THEM ALL UP WITH MY SKILLS...

TRUTH BE TOLD...

SO OUR PLACE DECIDED NOT TO INVITE HIM.

STILL, I IMAGINE A LOT OF SCHOOLS WANT HIM ANYWAY.

THAT I'M LACKING...

THAT I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH...

I JUST WANT TO PITCH AT EASE, WITHOUT HAVING TO HOLD BACK OR ANYTHING.

BUT... HERE, I WAS TOLD TO MY FACE

THAT'S THE PRECISE REASON WHY IT WAS WORTH IT TO COME TO THIS SCHOOL---

FINE BY ME...

WE CAN'T LOSE TO THEM.

...HAS NO MEANING HERE

OUR SENPAI STATUS

THE BASTARDS, HITTING IT NICE AND LONG, HUH.

I HEARD YOU HAD A FALLING-OUT WITH SAWAMURA.

WHAT EXACTLY RUBBED YOU THE WRONG WAY?

DAMN.

I WISH WE COULD DO SOME HITTING, TOO.

THE ISSUE AT HAND IS YOUR ATTITUDE AND ACTIONS AS A CATCHER.

AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT, I'D ALSO LIKE TO HEAR THE REASON WHY YOU'RE SO PASSIVE-AGGRESSIVE WITH ME...

BUT WELL, PUTTING THAT ASIDE FOR NOW...

YOU'RE AWARE THAT CREATING CONDITIONS FOR THE PITCHER TO PITCH AT EASE IS THE CATCHER'S DUTY, RIGHT?

EVEN IF YOU DON'T TAKE PART IN MATCHES, YOU'RE STILL A CATCHER.

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE UP FOR IT IF THE FIGHT WITH YOU THROWS SAWAMURA OFF HIS GAME, AFFECTING HIS PERFORMANCE IN A MATCH?

...

IT MAY SEEM TRIFLE, BUT EVEN SOMETHING AS TRIFLE AS THAT

CAN DO A BIG DISSERVICE TO THE WHOLE TEAM.

AS A CATCHER, YOU SHOULD REFLECT ON YOUR ACTIONS.

YOU'RE A CATCHER, AND SAWAMURA IS A PITCHER. TALK IT OUT WITH EACH OTHER THROUGH BASEBALL.

BUT WELL... YOU'LL KNOW WHAT KIND OF GUY SAWAMURA IS WHEN YOU CATCH FOR HIM.

SHIT.

REFLECTING ON MY ACTIONS ...?

ACTING AS A CATCHER ...?

BEING TOLD THAT BY HIM, OF ALL PEOPLE, IS PISSING ME OFF THE MOST...

IT'S LIKE FURYA REVERTED BACK TO HOW HE WAS RIGHT AFTER JOINING THE TEAM.
AND HEAVY ...

WILD ...

AND THE SPIN HE'S PUTTING ON THE BALL IS ALL OVER THE PLACE

HE'S NOT THROWING TO WHERE I INDICATE FOR HIM TO THROW.

TOO HIGH! THROW LOWER!

BUT I CAN FEEL UNMISTAKABLE TREMENDOUS DETERMINATION IN THESE PITCHES...

NICE PITCH, NORI!

HIS FASTBALLS ARE IN GREAT SHAPE TODAY

NICE PITCH, SAWA-MURA!

GOING GOOD SO FAR!

¡

DAMN...

I ALSO WANT MIYUKI-SENPAI TO CATCH FOR ME...

WHAT AN EXPLOSIVE BANG HIS PITCHES ARE MAKING.

Bastard...

SPLITTER NEXT!

THE STUFF I HAVE RIGHT NOW IS NOT ENOUGH.

I WANT TO POLISH THE NUMBERS MORE, MUCH MORE...

I'M WITH YOU!

I'M OFF TO DO SOME TEE BATTING FOR DISTANCE.

WANNA USE THE BATTING CAGE?

YEAH ..

MIYUKI-SENPAI.

Huh?

CAN YOU PLEASE HELP ME PRACTICE AFTER THIS?

DON'T BE SO DAMN GREEDY, FURUYA!

HOLD ON A SECOND HERE! YOU HAD HIM CATCH FOR YOU IN THE BULLPEN TODAY!

AND I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW THAT I HAD A PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WITH HIM FOR TODAY, BEFORE YOU ASKED HIM!

WANNA THROW ...?

YES, I'D LIKE TO...

H-Hey...

Previously: The Seidou players wrestle with their individual issues in order to become the champions. After common practice Furuya came asking Ryuuki for an individual practice. Ryuuki had a prior promise with Narumiya, but...

CHAPTER 34
INSIDE THE HEART

寺嶋裕二
(てらじまゆうじ)

...ALRIGHT. BUT ONLY FOR A BIT.

EH?!

I'M GLAD.

I'D LIKE TO CENTER MY PITCHING AROUND FASTBALLS FOR THIS PRACTISE.

HOLD ON A SECOND! WHAT ABOUT YOUR PROMISE TO ME, MIYUKI KAZUYAAA?!

AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING BUTTING IN, FURUYA?!

SORRY.

I JUST WANTED TO THROW

BUT TRUTH BE TOLD... I JUST NEED TO FIND OUT WHERE FURUYA IS HEADED...

ACE-SAMA?!

I'LL CATCH FOR YOU LATER... PROMISE!

IT'S A REQUEST FROM ACE-SAMA, YOU SEE.

AND THIS ATTITUDE OF HIS...

Let's go! Let's not waste any time!

IT'S GOING TO AFFECT HIS APPLICATION IN THE NEXT MATCH, TOO.

I'D LIKE TO WATCH YOUR PRACTICE!

FURUYA-SAN!!! CAN I GO WITH YOU, TOO?

OF COURSE! I WILL ONLY WATCH, NOTHING MORE, I PROMISE!

IF YOU ONLY WATCH, THAT IS.

FINE.

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS...

SERIOUSLY?

ORDERING HIM TO ONLY WATCH, HUH...

YES, BUT I WOULDN'T HAVE IT ANY OTHER WAY.

ARE YOU FOR REAL?

HE'S RUTHLESS, AIN'T HE.

I UNDERSTAND THAT ACE-SAMA IS MORE IMPORTANT THEN ME...

I UNDERSTAND IT, BUT...

VI
BASEBALL MYTE-BOOKS
WHAT AN IMPRESSIVE AMOUNT. NOTHING LESS FROM A TEAM WITH SO MANY MEMBERS I SUPPOSE

Quantity over quantity

Importance of 1 swing, 1 pitch

players tha

must pull

ESPECIALLY THE 3RD YEARS' NOTES BECOME MORE SPECIFIC.

THESE NOTEBOOKS ARE SO INTERESTING TO READ BECAUSE EVEN IF ALL THE MEMBERS SHARE THE SAME GOAL, EACH PLAYER'S INDIVIDUALITY SHOWS THROUGH IN THEIR NOTES.

THOSE TRYING TO MAKE THEIR WORDS REACH OTHERS...

THOSE ENCOURAGED BY OTHERS' WORDS...

This month's personal goal:
strong wide-angle hits
This week's personal goal:
hitting outside pitches

QUESTIONS ADDRESSED TO ONESELF, PROCLAMATIONS ADDRESSED TO OTHERS... ALL OF THIS IS CONVEYED THROUGH WRITTEN WORD.

It's frustrating when you're not able to play the way you want!

I want to play in games!
I want all the 3rd years to be on the roster!

Goal:
to make it to the roaster for summer,
to hit a homer in a practice game

WORDS CAN BE WEIGHTY JUST AS THEY CAN BE LIGHT.

For kouhais to look up to senpais and grow
To become a player others want to surpass
For the current practice come in handy in summer

I want to become a player who can run fast

NOTHING LESS FROM A JAPANESE LANGUAGE TEACHER!

TEACHING CLASSES AND SUPERVISING CLUB PRACTICES

WHEN DOES HE EVEN SLEEP ...?

CHARACTERS ARE SAID TO EXPRESS HUMAN HEART WHEN PUT IN WRITING.

AND I WANT THE MEMBERS TO WRITE THEM NOT OUT OF OBLIGATION BUT FOR THE SAKE OF IMPROVING THEMSELVES THROUGH THEM.

ABOUT THE STARTING PITCHER FOR THE NEXT MATCH... OR RATHER,

I WOULD LIKE TO ASK WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE CHANGE FURYA HAS BEEN UNDERGOING LATELY, KATAOKA-SAN...?

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT HE IS TRYING TO OBTAIN SOMETHING ...

OR MAYBE CHANGE EVERYTHING COMPLETELY...

...BUT IN ANY CASE, IT APPEARS TO ME THAT HE STOPPED SEEING EVERYTHING ELSE AROUND HIM, DON'T YOU THINK?

今

OF COURSE, I'M NOT SAYING THAT IT IS A BAD THING, PER SE,

AND I UNDERSTAND THAT SOMETIMES PERIODS OF OBSESSION ARE EVEN NECESSARY, BUT STILL... WHAT DO YOU THINK?

AT KOUSHIEN, THE TEAM GOT TO KNOW WHAT NATIONAL LEVEL IS.

AND I BELIEVE IT ONLY NATURAL THAT EACH PLAYER IS *CHANGING* UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THAT KNOWLEDGE.

Fwh

THE QUESTION IS, IF THOSE INDIVIDUAL *CHANGES* CAN MESH TOGETHER TO TRANSFORM INTO THE TEAM'S STRENGTH OR NOT...

A-
AMAZING.

NOTHING LIKE WHEN HE WAS THROWING TO ME

SO THIS IS...

. WHAT FURUYA-SAN'S REAL DEAL PITCHING IS LIKE.

NO...
IS HE PITCHING LIKE THAT BECAUSE THIS CATCHER IS BRINGING IT OUT IN HIM?

Mguh mguh...

Mguh mguh...

UMM... ARE YOU NOT GOING TO GO INSIDE?

I'M **FRUSTRATED** AS IT IS, HAVING TO SHUT UP AND **WATCH THEM** PRACTICE!

ARE YOU, NOW?

YES, I AM! NATURALLY !!!

Mguh mguh mguh...

...

AW, DAMN! EVEN THOUGH HE PROMISED ME FIRST!

AND YOU'RE SAYING IT LOUD ENOUGH SO THAT HE HEARS YOU, EH.

You're holding a grudge over this, huh...

ACE-SAMA, MY ASS! HIS CAPTAIN TITLE IS CRYING RIVERS AT THAT ATTITUDE..!

EVEN THOUGH HE PROMISED ME FIRST... WHAT A BASTARD!!!

DO YOU WANT ME TO CATCH FOR YOU?

YOU'RE GOING TO PITCH AFTER THIS, RIGHT?

I CAN HELP YOU WARM UP IF YOU WANT.

A KOUHAI TRYING TO BOSS AROUND HIS SENPAI?!
...JUST FORGET IT.
IS THAT A TRAP?!
WH-WH-WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, BASTARD?!

I SIMPLY OFFERED TO HELP YOU WARM UP.

THAT'S PRECISELY THE PART I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

TO START WITH, WHAT'S WITH THIS SUDDEN TURNAROUND IN YOUR ATTITUDE,

WOLF... I MEAN, OKUMURA-BOY!

NO, NO, NO, WAIT A SEC THERE!

I WILL HEAR YOU OUT!

LISTEN! PITCHING IS A WORK OF ART THAT A PITCHER AND A CATCHER CREATE TOGETHER AS ONE WHOLE!

ARE YOU SERIOUS ABOUT IT? ARE YOU REALLY COMMITTED TO CREATING A WORK OF ART TOGETHER WITH ME?!

I USE THE WORDS "WORK OF ART" OFTEN MYSELF, TOO, NO?!

I DO, RIGHT?!

No, not really...

WHAH ?!

AAH, YOU'RE JUST PARROTING WHAT YOU HEARD FROM THE CAPTAIN?

THAT SOUNDED LIKE SOMETHING HE WOULD SAY

...."WORK OF ART"?

YOU CHOSE WORDS THAT DON'T SUIT YOU.

EH?!

WHAT, ARE YOU TELLING ME I CAN'T USE THE WORDS "WORK OF ART"?!

.....

I WILL ...

THEN THROW TO THE SPOTS I'M INDICATING!

NOT YET.

SATISFIED NOW?

THIS IS WHAT SEIDOU'S MAIN BATTERY IS LIKE...!

SUCH TENSION EVEN THOUGH IT'S JUST ROUTINE INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE...

...

FURUYA.

JUST WHAT... DID YOU SEE AT KOUSHIEN?

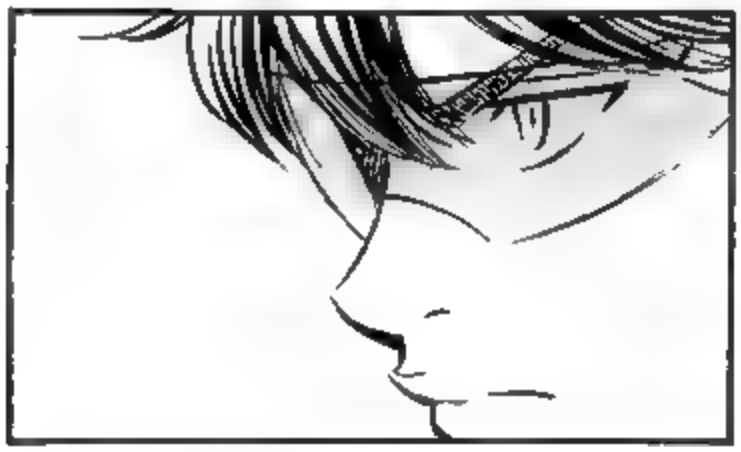
THAT MATCH WHERE YOU FOUGHT IT OUT WITH HONGOU?

WHAT YOU'RE PURSUING IS

...FURUYA.

JUST WHAT DID YOU SEE AT KOUSHIEN?

アニメ『ダイヤのA』は毎週土曜日朝7時より
テレビ東京系ネットにてセレクション放送中!!



WHAT YOU'RE PURSUING IS

THAT MATCH WHERE YOU FOUGHT IT OUT WITH HONGOU?

IN ALL THE TIME THAT I'VE BEEN CATCHING FOR YOU, THAT WAS YOUR BEST PERFORMANCE TO DATE.

IN THAT MATCH YOU HAD EVERYTHING: CONTROL, SPEED AND FOCUS.

PITCHING FOR THE WHOLE 9 INNINGS, YOU ONLY GAVE UP 4 HITS.

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH... I WAS EVEN SCARED WONDERING JUST HOW FAR YOU COULD GO...

BUT WE LOST.

WE LOST BECAUSE I GAVE UP RUNS.

Previously: Each of the Seidou players seeks to improve himself in preparation to facing YokidaiSan. After the common practice, despite a promise with Sawamura, Miyuki accepted Furuya's sudden request to pitch. There, Miyuki had a bad feeling about Furuya...

SO WHAT I'M PURSUING IS THE KIND OF PITCHING THAT WILL SURPASS WHAT I SHOWED ON THAT DAY.

YOU WANT TO GO EVEN HIGHER, HUH...

IS A THORNY ONE...

THE PATH YOU DECIDED TO TAKE

連載10周年記念!! 大『ダイヤのA』展 開催決定!! 詳細はP.452のMMRへ!!

表紙は春市!! 最新KC③巻&アニメファンブック好評発売中!! お買い求めは全国の書店にて!!

CHAPTER 35
THE TRIANGLE

寺嶋裕二

EH?!

ALRIGHT, I GET IT!

AND THIS IS WHERE WE'RE GONNA STOP FOR TODAY.

BUT WE BARELY JUST STARTED ...

NO, THAT'S MORE THAN ENOUGH, I'M FED UP!

SPARE ME HAVING TO CATCH ANY MORE FOR A GUY WHO'S SPINNING HIS WHEELS USELESSLY, RUNNING ONLY ON EMOTIONS WITH HIS FEET NOT ON THE GROUND FIRMLY.

annoying...

WELL... I HAD MY HANDS FULL JUST CATCHING HIS PITCHES...

I DIDN'T EXACTLY HAVE LEEWAY TO HAVE FUN...

CATCHING FOR HIM ISN'T FUN, RIGHT?

EH?

OUR NEXT OPPONENT IS ICHIDAISAN.

AND IT'S YOUR DUTY AS THE ACE TO KEEP YOURSELF IN THE BEST SHAPE POSSIBLE FOR THE BACK-TO-BACK SEMIFINAL AND FINAL.

IF YOU CAN'T DO THAT...

SAWAMURA! YOU THERE, RIGHT?

COME ON IN!

BEING WORKED UP AND JUST WANTING TO FIGHT IT OUT CAN'T BE CALLED "PITCHING"...

...YOU'LL GIVE UP THE STARTING PITCHER POSITION TO HIM IN THE NEXT MATCH AGAIN.

.....

HUH?!

WHAT'S WITH ALL OF YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN?!

EVEN THOUGH YOU ALL SHUNNED AND IGNORED ME JUST EARLIER!

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, SAWA-MURA.

BUT NOW I'M ALL YOURS.

YOU SAID YOU'LL HELP ME WARM UP, RIGHT!

OKUMURA, LET'S GO!

...

WHAT, YOU DONE ENTERTAINING ACE-SAMA ALREADY?!

HAHAHA, THAT'S A GOOD WAY OF PUTTING IT.

...Ow?

I SEE HEEH

HEEH

SHUDD UP!

HUH? WAIT A SEC, YOU TWO NOT FIGHTING ANYMORE?

HE JUST SAID HE'LL HELP ME OUT!

Grrraw

STOP GRINNING, DAMMIT!

WELL, NOT FOR ME!

ISN'T IT IMPOSSIBLE TO DO IT IN JUST 10 PITCHES?

MY SHOULDER WILL BE WARMED UP IN 10 PITCHES!

I HAVE NO INTENTION TO GIVE UP THE MOUND.

Damn...

THAT'S NOT YOUR CALL TO MAKE.

IT'S THE COACH'S.

ヒリッ

IF YOU WILL EXCUSE ME.

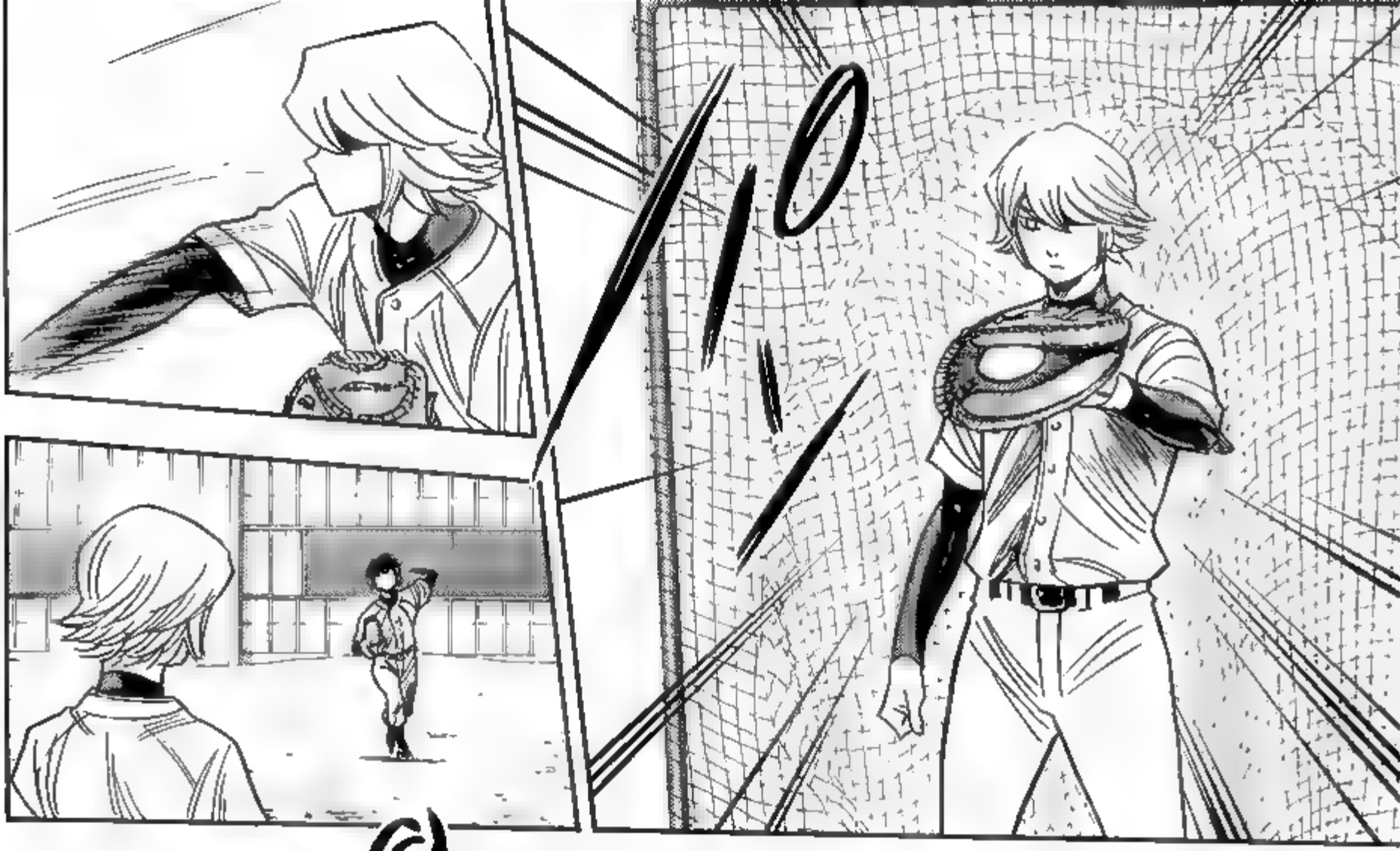
EAT PROPERLY AND DO RECOVERY DRILLS.

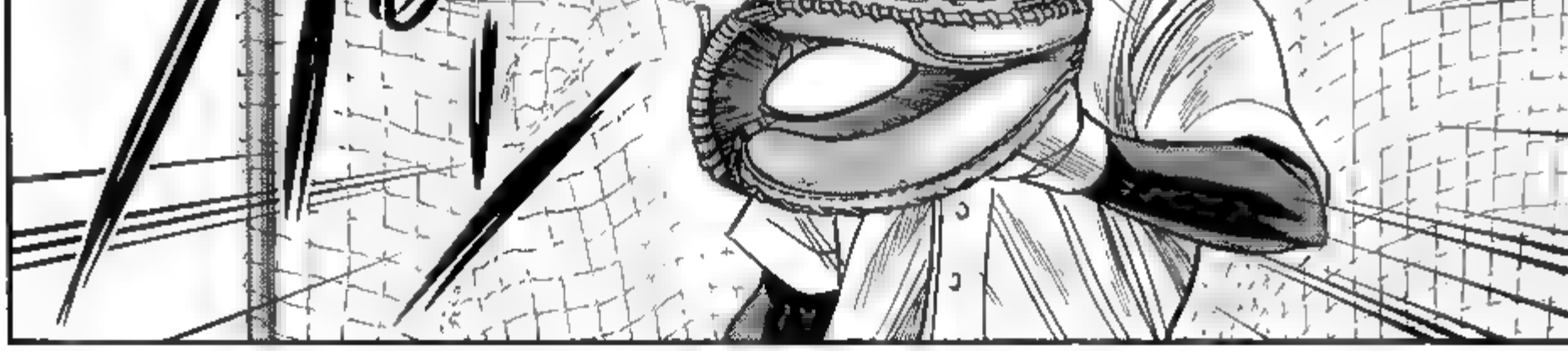
AH, AND DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE ICING AND MASSAGE.

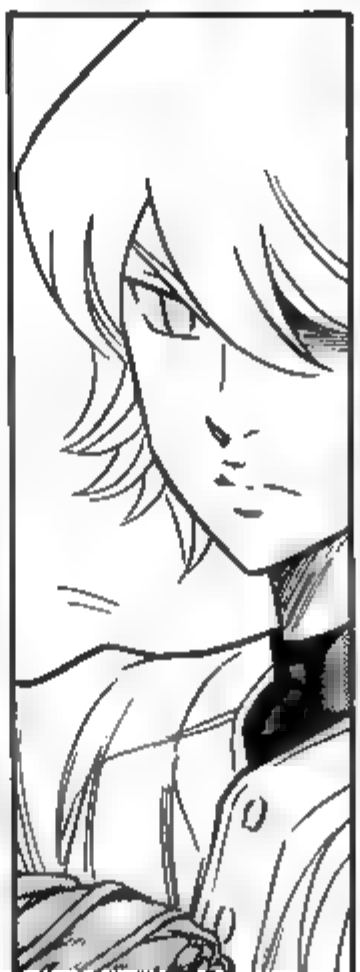
I KNOW.

I'M TELLING YOU THIS BECAUSE YOU CLEARLY DON'T!

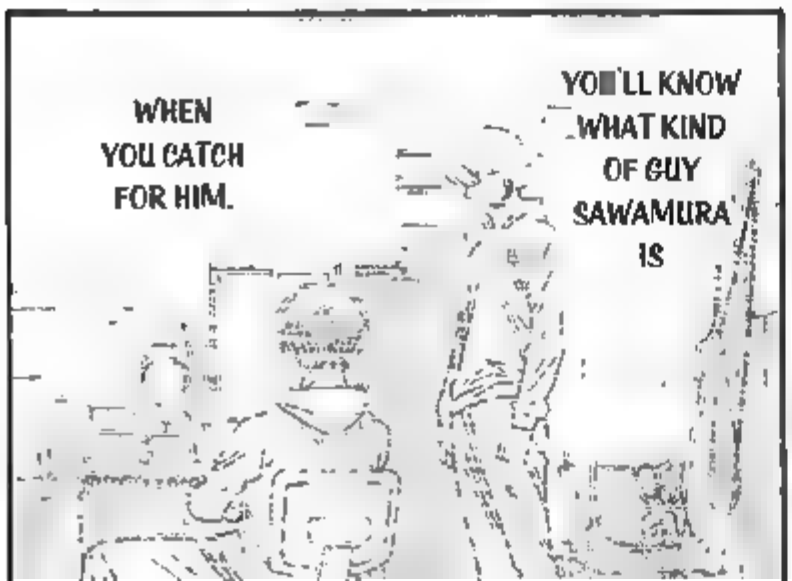
10/1







Uooshi!
6 more~


WHEN YOU CATCH FOR HIM.
YOU'LL KNOW WHAT KIND OF GUY SAWAMURA IS

101

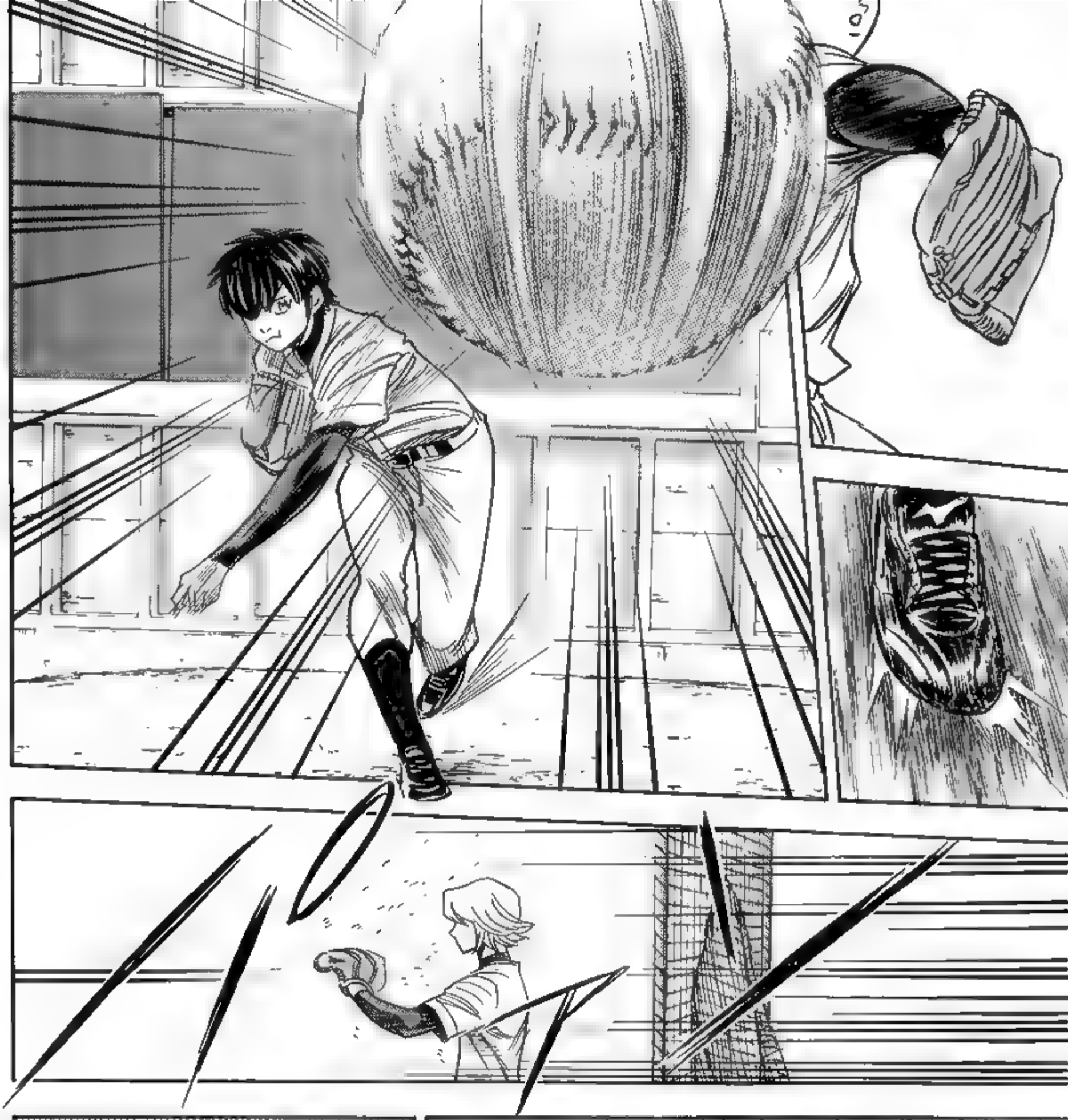
BUT HE'S THROWING THE BALL STRAIGHT TO HIS PARNER'S CHEST LEVEL FROM ANY DISTANCE.

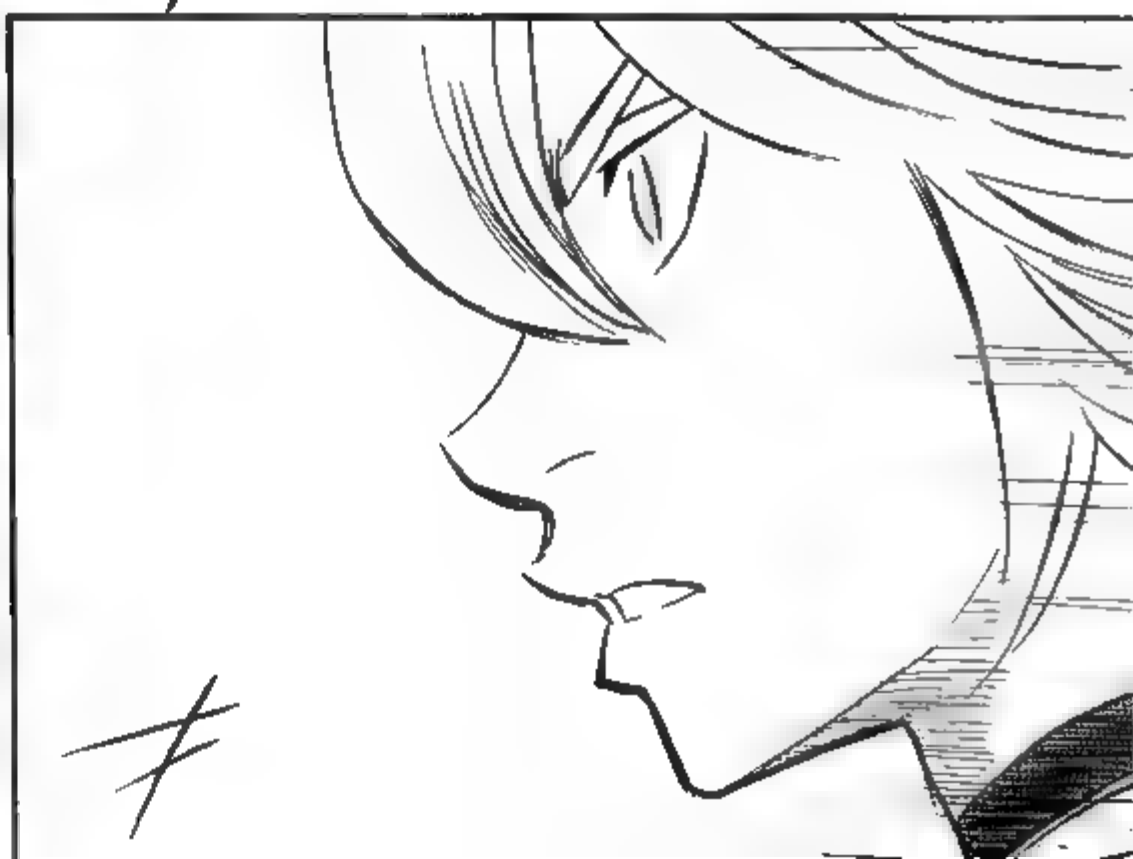
I THOUGHT HE WAS A PERSON WHO ONLY RUNS ON DRIVE AND FIGHTING SPIRIT,

I'VE NO IDEA HOW IT CAME DOWN TO THIS, KOUSHUU...

But it's just too amusing.

HE'S GOT GOOD CONTROL...





OOOSHI! THAT HAD A NICE FEELING TO IT!

I'M ALL WARMED UP, MIYUKI-SENPAI!

FUHA HAHA!

SAWAMURA! PITCH FOR OKUMURA SOME MORE, OKAY?

EH?

WELL, NOT THAT I MIND. ESPECIALLY WITH YOU PALMING ME OFF WITH PROMISES LIKE YOU DID.

AND YOU'RE STILL HOLDING A GRUDGE OVER THAT, HUH..

MAKES YOU WANT TO CATCH SOME MORE FOR HIM, RIGHT?

IN THAT CASE, GO FETCH THE PROTECTIVE GEAR.

AND THE MASK.

全国制覇

I ADVISE YOU TO REALLY FOCUS.

IN A SENSE, HIS PITCHES ARE MORE TROUBLESOME THAN FURUYA-SAN'S.

DON'T BE IN SUCH A HURRY!

I KNOW.

I WANT TO PRACTICE NUMBER 11 TODAY, BY THE WAY.

今日学べ

IT'S MY FIRST TIME SEEING PITCHES THAT ARE SO HARD TO CATCH.

LET'S START WITH NUMBER 4.

It's getting real

A 4-SEAMER, NICE AND STRAIGHT, LITERALLY.

NUMBER 4?

MAKE IT AN OUTSIDE PITCH TO A RIGHT-HANDED BATTER.

THIS IS GONNA BE DIFFERENT FROM THE WARMUP,

OKUMURA-BOY.

THOSE EYES

Here goes! That loud laughter of his!

FUHA HAHA!

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.

GAZED ONLY STRAIGHT AHEAD.

ONLY INTO THE FUTURE.

YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW LUCKY YOU ARE...

FURUYA...

...THAT IN THIS SCHOOL...

...THERE IS SAWAMURA

IN THE SAME SCHOOL YEAR AS YOU...

EVEN IF WHAT THEY SAW WAS DIFFERENT,

THEY ONLY GAZED AHEAD.

アニメ『ダイヤのA』は毎週土曜日朝7時より
テレビ東京系ネットにてセレクション放送中!!

コミックス『ダイヤのA act II』
①～③巻好評発売中!!

ダイヤのA act II

CHAPTER 36
THE NUMBERS

寺嶋裕二

Previously: The Seidou players train zealously in preparation to facing Ichidai in the semi-final. After catching for Furuya, Miyuki found out the reason for the sad feeling he had about him lately. Next, Sawamura is up to throw and Miyuki let Okumura, who helped Sawamura warm up to catch for him more.

BUT IT WASN'T BAD, I'LL ADMIT.

NGAH!

Unfortunately...

YES, ALTHOUGH THE PITCH ITSELF WAS A BALL.

FUHAHAHA! THAT'S SOME NICE BANG YOUR MITT PRODUCED!

AND THE SOUND UPON THE BALL CONNECTING WITH THE MITT WAS NICE, TOO.

HIS APPROACH LETS THE PITCHER THROW AT EASE

INDEED

THAT'S SOME REALLY GENTLE TOUCH HE HAS WHEN CATCHING...

WELL, KOUSHUU HAD A HIGH OPINION OF THIS GUY FROM THE START...

HIS SPEED AND ENERGY NOW IS NOTHING LIKE WHEN WE PLAYED CATCH...

IN THE ZONE. AS EXPECTED.

HOW WAS IT THIS TIME?!

I KNOW, RIGHT! I KNOW, RIGHT!

THE FIRST TIME HE THREW TO ME, THERE WAS NO SOUND, BECAUSE I FAILED TO CATCH THE BALL.

NOT ONLY YOU CAN'T SEE THE RELEASE POINT OF THE BALL, IT ALSO HAS MORE SPEED AT THE PLATE THAN YOU'D EXPECT...

2-seamer.? So this pitcher can throw it?

Don't ask me...

HERE I GO!

A SINKING 2-SEAMER WITH SHOOTBALL-LIKE SPIN.

OKAY, LET'S MOVE ON TO NUMBER 2.

NICE REFLE-XES.
HE ADJUSTED TO THE PITCH FLYING AT HIM ON THE VERY FIRST THROW AGAIN.

I DON'T REALLY MIND.

CAN YOU THROW A FEW MORE TO HIM, SAWAMURA?

YES, PLEASE ...

YOU GOOD TO KEEP GOING, OKUMURA?

NUMBER 7.

FINE THEN, LET'S GET TO SOME HIGHER NUMBERS.

Yup!

Custom sure sounds cool...

THE CUTTER CUSTOM.

IT'S NOT SO MUCH ABOUT HOW MANY TYPES, EXACTLY...

IT'S JUST THAT MOST OF THEM ARE STILL INCOMPLETE.

HOW MANY PITCH TYPES ARE THERE THAT THE TWO OF YOU REFER TO BY THOSE NUMBERS?

WE SYSTEMATICALLY TESTED EVERY POSSIBLE GRIP AND LEFT ONLY WHAT LOOKED VIABLE, WHICH IS WHAT WE CALL THE "NUMBERS" NOW.

FROM THE START, THIS GUY WAS THROWING INCREDIBLY WHIMSICAL AND PECULIAR PITCHES,

SO IN HIS CASE, HE CAN CHANGE A PITCH'S BREAK WITH JUST CHANGING HIS GRIP ON THE BALL.

SO I HAD HIM TAG ALONG WITH MY PRACTICES IN THE OFF-SEASON.

HEY, WHAT AM I TO YOU, A CONVENIENT CATCHING MACHINE?!

今のまわり Apologize, this instance!

IF IT'S MIYUKI-SENPAI WHO'S CATCHING, I CAN DISPENSE WITH APOLOGIES WHEN MY PITCHES FLY TO WEIRD SPOTS!

EVERY POSS-IBLE.

ADD TO THAT THE NOT YET STABLE SPLITTER THAT WE GAVE A TEST RUN TO IN THE PREVIOUS GAME,

AND THE CUTTER CUSTOM HE'S ABOUT TO THROW NOW.

THEN WE HAVE THE 4-SEAMER THAT'S THE BASE OF HIS PITCHING, AND THE CHANGEUP.

THE ZERO-SEAMER, HELD WITH A SIMPLE TIGHT GRIP WITH HIS FINGERS OFF THE SEAMS COMPLE-TELY,

FOR WHEN THERE IS A NEED TO SWITCH TO SOME HIGH SPEED

MAKE SURE YOU FOCUS, OKUMURA.

THE LEVEL OF CATCHING DIFFUCULTY IS GONNA SKYROCKET FROM HERE ON OUT.

THAT I PREVIOUSLY THREW WITH USING MY WHOLE BODY IN THE SLIDE STEP..

I'VE ADDED AN IMPROVED GRIP TO THE CUTTER

NOW TO THROW IT TO THE CHEST-LEVEL OF A RIGHT-HANDED BATTER...

Fuh

...SO THAT IT TURNS SHARLY

EH?
....

RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDL—

終

Ah...

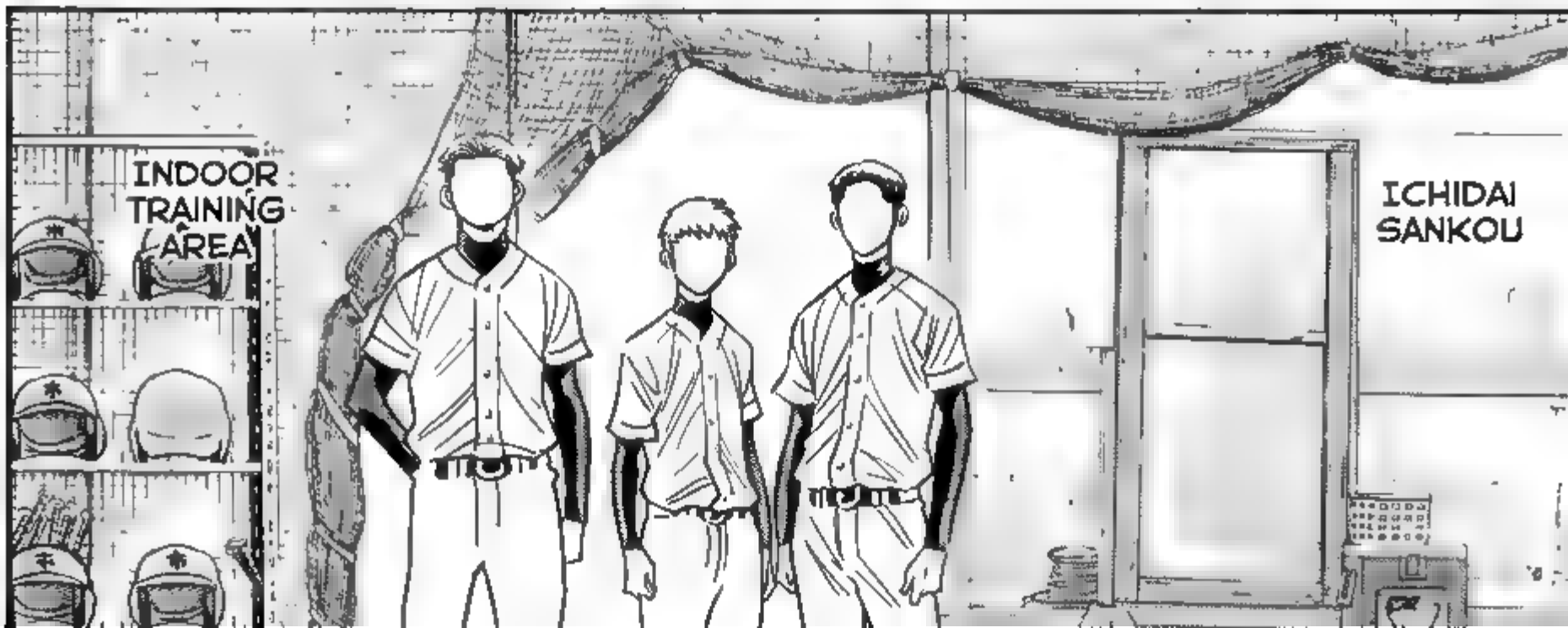
IT'S NOT JUST YOU, FURUYA...

YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE!

WHO GAINED EXPERIENCE AT KOUSHIEN...

THIS GUY, TOO, IS EVOLVING AT A BREAKNECK SPEED RIGHT NOW---

SORRY! I MESSED UP THE COURSE


INDOOR
TRAINING
AREA
ICHIDAI
SANKOU

BUT WOW, JUST HOW MUCH THESE GUYS SWING THEIR BATS?

I HEARD THE RUMORS ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF PRACTICE IN SANKOU,

OOH ...

AMA-HISA-SENPAI!!

S-SUMMON A SPIRIT? FOR REAL?

YUP...

FOR REALLY REAL.

THESE GUYS BELIEVE THAT IF THEY DO A THOUSAND SWINGS A DAY EVERY DAY FOR A YEAR, THEY'LL BE ABLE TO SUMMON THE SPIRIT OF THE BAT...

HEY, KOUSEI, YOU LITTLE!

DON'T FEED WEIRD SHIT TO THE FIRST YEARS!

IF SUCH A THING DID EXIST, I'D SURE WANT IT FOR MYSELF!

YOU WOULD ?!

YEAH! AND MAKE HAYAMIN ITS VA.

NO, SERIOUSLY. I PERSONALLY HATE HAVING TO THROW TO THESE GUYS WHEN WE PRACTICE FIELDING,

'CAUSE IT FEELS LIKE THEIR BATS HAVE THE SPIRIT OF THE BAT DWELLING IN THEM FOR REAL.

T/N: HAYAMI SAORI, POPULAR ANIME VA (VOICE ACTRESS)

ALRIGHT GUYS, I'M DONE FOR TONIGHT, 'KAY?

GOOD NIGHT THEN, SENPAI

WHAT'S A VA?

HAHAHA! THAT'S A SUSPICIOUSLY SPECIFIC IMAGE OF IT THAT YOU HAVE THERE!

The spirit of the bat, huh...

TERUI TADASHI
(1ST YEAR)

AMAHISA-SAN SAID HE HATES THROWING TO THEM...

KUHARA KAZUTAKA
(1ST YEAR)

WHICH GOES TO SHOW THE IMMENSITY OF THE TRUST HE PLACES IN THE BATTING LINEUP, NO DOUBT...

ABE YUUSUKE
(1ST YEAR)

THE ATMOSPHERE IN THE TEAM HAS BEEN RATHER NICE SINCE THE FIRST YEARS JOINED, DON'T YOU AGREE?

AND WINNING AGAINST SUCH A POWERHOUSE AS NIOU GAKUSHA IN A TOUGH GAME ALSO DEEPENED THE PLAYERS SELF-CONFIDENCE

THE BITTER DEFEATS WE SUFFERED LAST YEAR IN THE SUMMER AND FALL

HAD PRODUCED A GOOD EFFECT AND HELPED THE TEAM GROW STRONGER.

THERE IS ALSO THE FACT THAT YOU WENT REALLY HARD IN THE W DURING THE OFF-SEASON

YES!

IT'S JUST THERE ARE THINGS THAT CAN ONLY BE GAINED

THROUGH CONCRETE AND TANGIBLE RESULTS.

SO IN THIS TOURNAMENT, OUR GOAL IS TO GAIN UNSHAKEABLE CONFIDENCE IN OURSELVES,

IN ORDER TO CHALLENGE THE UPCOMING SUMMER.

青心寮

Too many things that I lack

I can't reach my destination

as I am now.

If we are to aim for the top,

each of us needs to up his individual lev

Individual issues:

Opener... Runners...

Set plays

Moving onto the next pla

If I can become the best pitcher in Japan,

I will be able to make the team the best in Japan.

Furuya Satoru

降谷 暁

A

APRIL,
26

TOKYO METROPOLITAN HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

3RD BASE SIDE		1ST BASE SIDE
1ST MATCH	10:00	START
SEIDOU	—	ICHIDAI SANKOU
2ND MATCH	12:30	START
INASHIRO JITSUGYOU	—	TEITOU

Celebrating!

10 YEARS OF SERIALIZATION!!!

LET'S GO SEE THE VIEW WE HAVEN'T SEEN YET!
TOGETHER WITH THE BEST TEAMMATES!

見たことのない景色を
見に行こう!!
最高の仲間達と共に

次ページより、福岡ソフトバンクホークス・和田毅選手インタビュー記事!!

第一部 ダイヤのA 1〜47巻&
第二部 ダイヤのA actII 1〜3巻、
大好評発売中!! お買い求めは書店にて!!

ダイヤのA actII

CHAPTER 37
BATTING FIRST

寺嶋裕二

SEIDOU
(WEST TOKYO)
VS
ICHIDAISAN

SEMIFINAL

TOKYO METROPOLITAN SPRING TOURNAMENT

PLEASE DECIDE THE ORDER

WE'LL BE ON ATTACK FIRST THEN.

Ugh...

SHAKE HANDS IF YOU HAVE NONE.

ICHIDAI SANKOU SECOND. ANY OBJEC-TIONS?

SEIDOU HIGH BATS FIRST.

球場事務所

競技事務所

ﾅﾅｰ

ﾅﾅｰ

係員通

青道

WHO IS THEIR STARTING PITCHER?

OUR OPPONENTS CHOSE TO BAT FIRST?

WHAT?

Seidou High - Miyuki - Kataoka

1	6	Kuramochi Youichi	
2	8	Tougou Hideaki	6
3	4	Kominato Haruichi	8
4	2	Miyuki Kazuya	4
5	9	Shirasu Kenjirou	2
6	3	Maezono Kenta	9
7	7	Yuuki Masashi	3
8	1	Furuya Satoru	7
9	5	Kanemaru Shinji	1
			5

BUT HE'S ONLY 8TH IN THE BATTING ORDER.

WHICH MEANS THEY WANT HIM TO GIVE HIS UNDIVIDED ATTENTION TO PITCHING ONLY...

AND ONE OF THEIR FIRST YEARS IS ON THE STARTING LINEUP AGAIN.

SO THEY'RE STARTING FURUYA SATORU, HUH.

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE WE BOTH WILL BE FIGHTING IT OUT WITH OUR BEST PLAYERS, WON'T WE, COACH KATAOKA.

I THOUGHT THEY MIGHT START SAWAMURA...

GREAT!

HM

HM

OISHO!

TO BE HONEST, I WANNA GO BACK AND DO SOME HITTING.

WHILE THE SENPAIS ARE OUT, THAT IS.

WOW, TODAY'S MATCHES ARE LOOKING SO EXCITING!

I WONDER IF WE CAN STAY AND WATCH INAJITSU VS TEITOU, TOO?

YEAH, AND YOU CAN TELL WHERE HE IS RIGHT AWAY

HE'S LOUD AS USUAL.

I'M IN THE ZONE!

WA HA HA HA HA!

NOTHING LESS FROM SAWAMURA-SENP---

HAHAHA, HE'S WARMING UP LIKE HE'S THE STARTING PITCHER.

LOOKS LIKE HE'S STILL VERY SORE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED THE OTHER DAY...

GRAWR RRRRR RRRRR

SORRY, IT SLIPPED OUT ACCIDENTAL-LY

THAT STRONG A REACTION JUST FROM HEARING THAT NAME..

GRRR...

MOREOVER, IT'S STILL CONSIDERED INCOMPLETE...

Kn kn kn

Well now shall I take over?

TO THINK THAT KOUSHUU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO EVEN TOUCH THAT PITCH WITH HIS MITT... HOW JUST SHARP IS THAT PITCH'S BREAK...?

NOTE: THIS IS PURELY KOUSHUU'S IMAGINATION

MAKES SENSE THAT SEIDOU IS CRAZILY STRONG.

AND A PITCHER LIKE THAT IS A RELIEF...

YOU'RE NOT GETTING A TURN TODAY.

NO, NO, NO, NO. WE DON'T KNOW WHEN FURUYA SLIPS UP.

SAWAMURA YOU SHOULD STOP FOR NOW TOO

I HAVE TO BE READY TO STEP IN RIGHT FROM THE FIRST INNING.

ARE YOU SURE THIS IS ENOUGH?

YEAH.

THANKS.

That's right! Their batting order is unchanged either

They're starting the same members as in their previous game?

DOES THE DECISION TO START FURUYA MEAN THAT COACH KATAOKA EXPECTS THE ACE GRADE PITCHING FROM HIM, I WONDER...?

SANKOU'S CORE IS LEFT-HANDED BATTERS, SO STARTING SAWAMURA AGAINST THEM WOULD HAVE BEEN A GOOD CHOICE, TOO, I THINK...

THE STARTING PITCHER FOR TOMORROW WILL BE FURUYA.

YES, SIR!

SO FIELDERS, MAKE SURE TO SUPPORT THE PITCHER WITH SWIFT AND EFFICIENT FIELDING!

SANKOU'S BATTERS BOAST THE SWING SPEED OF THE NATIONAL LEVEL.

KAWAKAMI, SAWAMURA, START WARMING UP EARLY, LIKE ALWAYS.

YES, SIR!

ICHIDAI SANKOU'S ACE IS AMAHISA KOUSEI.

HE IS A PITCHER WHO GAVE UP NO RUNS EVEN TO NIOU GAKUSHA. DON'T EXPECT THAT FINDING WAYS TO HIT OFF HIM WILL BE AN EASY TASK.

I'm counting on you...

Too early yet

MOVE AND PLAY AS ONE AND SHOW TENACITY IN GOING FOR RUNS.

TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE GAME FLOW, OUT COUNT AND ALL YOUR AVAILABLE OPTIONS,

AND ADJUST YOUR JUDGEMENT FOR EACH NEXT PITCH ACCORDINGLY.

NFUH

STARTING WITH THIS GAME, ALL OUR MATCHES CONNECT TO OUR SUMMER.

SO GO AND WIN THIS GAME IF YOU REALLY ARE AIMING TO BECOME THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONS!

YES, SIR!

YEAH!

WE ARE STARTING THE FIRST SEMIFINAL OF THE TOKYO METROPOLITAN SPRING TOURNAMENT,

IN WHICH SEIDOU HIGH AND ICHIDAI SAN HIGH WILL FACE EACH OTHER.

THE TWO TEAMS ARE LONG-STANDING RIVALS FROM THE SAME WEST TOKYO BLOCK.

THE STADIUM IS FILLED TO CAPACITY, AND THIS FACT SPEAKS FOR THE DEGREE OF ATTENTION THIS GAME ATTRACTS.

THANK YOU!!!

BOW!

WHICH TEAM WILL EMERGE VICTORIOUS IN THIS HIGHLY EXCITING FACEOFF THAT CAN BE CALLED A PRELIMINARY SKIRMISH BEFORE THE SUMMER TOURNAMENT?

ALLOW US TO INTRODUCE THE PLAYERS.

THE FIRST ONES TO BE ON THE DEFENSIVE ARE ICHIDAI SAN HIGH.

TAKAMI AKITO.

SUPPORTING HIM FROM THE PLATE IS ANOTHER 3RD YEAR,

THE FIRST BASEMAN, AS WELL AS THE 4TH BATTER, IS HOSHIDA MAMORU.

3

AMAHISA KOUSEI.

ON THE MOUND IS SANKOU'S 3RD YEAR ACE

YEAH, KEEPING SUMMER IN MIND, NEITHER OF THEM CAN AFFORD TO SHOW ANY WEAKENESS.

WHICHEVER OF THEM WINS WILL ALSO QUALIFY FOR THE KANTO TOURNAMENT.

NEITHER OF THE TEAMS SAVES UP THEIR KEY PLAYERS IN THIS GAME, FACING EACH OTHER WITH THEIR BEST LINEUPS.

HM

HM

THIS IS THE TOP OF THE FIRST, AND SEIDOU HIGH IS STARTING THEIR ATTACK.

LEADING IT OFF IS THE SHORTSTOP, KURAMOCHI-KUN.

...

INASHIRO

Ride that train~

that's headed for glory~

T/N: THE SONG IS *TRAIN TRAIN* BY THE BLUE HEARTS

YOU AWARE WHY I CHOSE FOR US TO BAT FIRST, RIGHT?

AMAHISA IS BY NO MEANS A PITCHER KNOWN FOR STRONG GAME OPENERS.

YOU'RE KIDDING! YOU WON IN ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS?!

YOU CHEATED NO?

YOU RE BEING SERIOUSLY RUDE, GUYS.

HOW UNUSUAL OF YOU TO WIN.

SO I WANT US TO PUT PRESSURE ON HIM IN THE VERY FIRST INNING AND, THUS, SUPPORT FURUYA.

Chu-ga chu-ga choo choo

Barrel forward!

TRAIN~ TRAIN~

THAT BATTER IS A REAL PAIN IF YOU LET HIM GET ON BASE,

AMAHISA BOY.

YEAH, I'M AWARE THAT THIS PLAYER IS A FAST RUNNER, BUT YOU KNOW .

HE'S NOT MUCH

OF A BATTER!

A DOUBLE RIGHT FROM THE START!

AND IT GOES OVER THE CENTER FIELDER!

CHEETAH! PETIT MACHO!

AND HE DIDN'T PASS UP THAT HIGH PITCH.

NOW THAT HE'S IN HIS THIRD YEAR, KURAMOCHI-KUN'S SWINGS ACQUIRED SOME GOOD POWER.

TOKYO

I'VE BEEN TELLING HIM TO QUIT BEING SO STUBBORN AND HIT ONLY FROM THE LEFT-SIDE BATTER'S BOX... BUT HE STILL KEEPS OBSESSING OVER SWITCH-HITTING

WHAT AN OBSTINATE KEY-STONE DUO!!

TO MAKE THE BEST OF THIS RARE CHANCE AND RAISE OUR PROBABILITY OF SCORING A RUN HERE,

I WANT YOU TO DO WHAT YOU CAN TO ADVANCE THE RUNNER TO THIRD WITH AS MUCH CERTAINTY AS POSSIBLE.

青道

AND ADVANCES THE RUNNER TO THIRD.

Yup, that was a good bunt!

Shu-

Nice bunt!

THE SECOND BATTER, TOUJOU-KUN, PULLS OFF A SACRIFICE BUNT

SEIDOU HIGH HAS AN UNEXPECTED CHANCE TO SCORE RIGHT IN THE FIRST INNING

AS THE THIRD BATTER, KOMINATO-KUN, TAKES THE PLATE!

HE CAN DO IT!

THIS MAN IS THE REAL DEAL!

Special Thanks

Raws

GG

Redrawer

Nazo no Seibutsu

ダイヤのA エース

Ace of Diamond

TDX release

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT BASEBALL EXPLAINED!

1 WHAT IS A BREAKING BALL? ①

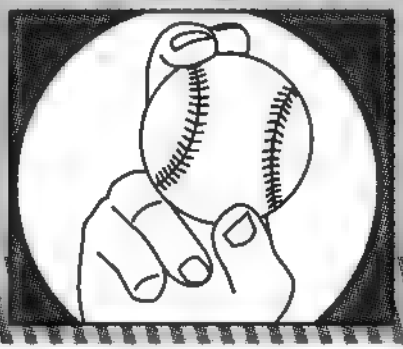
SLIDER & CHANGEUP

This is a new corner that will answer all of your questions about baseball in details to help you enjoy Daiya no A even more! This time, we will talk about the slider and changeup the 2 pitches that serve as winning shots for many pitchers! What is so incredible about them? Once you read about it, baseball will become even more fun!

SLIDER

A breaking ball that breaks as if sliding to the side opposite of the hand that threw it. The course resembles that of a curveball, but the pitch has more speed and, after travelling most of the distance on the trajectory characteristic of a fastball, suddenly breaks at the plate. In case of a right-handed pitcher and a right-handed batter or, alternatively, left-handed pitcher and a left-handed batter, the break will look like the ball is getting away from the batter, so slider is a go-to pitch or even the winning shot for many pitchers when they want to make the batter swing and miss

GRIP FOR RIGHT-HANDED PITCHERS



The ball is held by placing one's middle finger and thumb on the seams At the moment of the ball release, the swinging motion of the one's arm is followed through while snapping one's wrist and impacting the spin from one's fingertips.

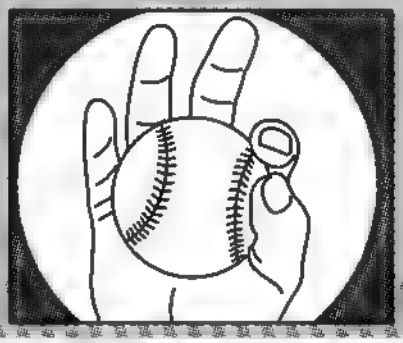
It breaks aways from the right-handed batters

NOTABLE USERS

CHANGEUP

An off-speed breaking ball designed to confuse the batter's timing by being much slower than the fastball. Simply put, it's a slowball. There is no uniform grip for it, so break, speed and spin all vary due to differences in the grip and style. Since the pitch's purpose is to confuse the hitter's timing, the bigger the speed gap between the fastball and changeup is, the better. It is thrown with the same motion as for a fastball, so the risk of overstraining your elbow is low, which makes it a popular pitch among pitchers.

GRIP FOR RIGHT-HANDED PITCHERS



One is free to hold the ball however they like as long as the speed of the ball drops. The most common grip is by forming a circle with one's index finger and thumb and wrapping the rest of one's fingers around the ball. The more the throwing motion looks like that for a fastball, the more effective the changeup will be

The break differs from pitcher to pitcher
The goa is to confuse the batter's timing by making t much slower than a fastball

NOTABLE USERS

NEXT TIME!

IN PART 2 OF "WHAT IS A BREAKING BALL?" YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT THE CURVEBALL AND THE SINKER!

LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT INSTALLMENT!

IRREGULAR CORNER

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT BASEBALL EXPLAINED!

2 WHAT IS A BREAKING BALL? ②

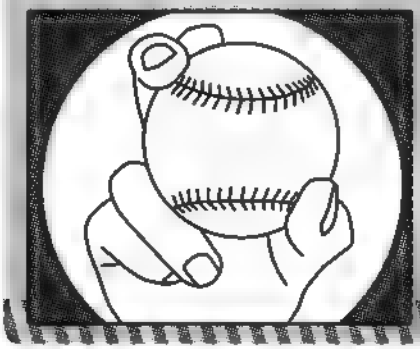
CURVEBALL & SINKER

This is a corner that will answer all of your questions about baseball in details to help you enjoy Daiya no A even more! This time, we have two articles on common breaking balls and pitching forms! You will learn about the curveball and sinker, and what throw is referred to as three-quarter delivery!

CURVEBALL

The curveball is a breaking ball that travels on a curve and dives down at the plate, breaking to the opposite side of the pitcher's throwing arm. It can be said that it is the first breaking ball for a pitcher to learn, and many pitchers have it in their repertoire. Its speed is slower that a fastball's, so it is often used as a change of pace pitch to confuse the batter's timing. If the vertical break is sharp enough, then it also can be used as a breaking ball to make the batter swing and miss.

GRIP FOR RIGHT-HANDED PITCHERS



If the ball is placed too deep into one's hand, it will become difficult to impart spin to it, so it should be held as shallowly as possible the thumb to allow for enough room between the line of the thumb and index finger and the ball. The arm should be bent enough to send the ball on the projected trajectory as the motion is followed through as if the pitcher wants to rub the ball with the middle finger that is placed on the seam. The throwing motion is sometimes decribed as the pitcher "ejecting" the ball from their hand

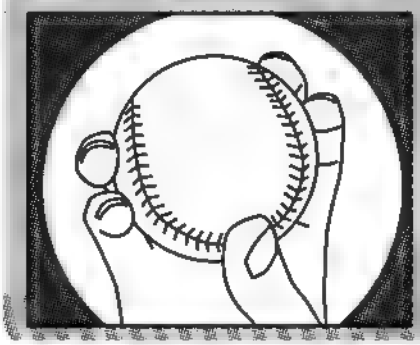
It breaks aways from the right-handed batters while dropping

NOTABLE USERS

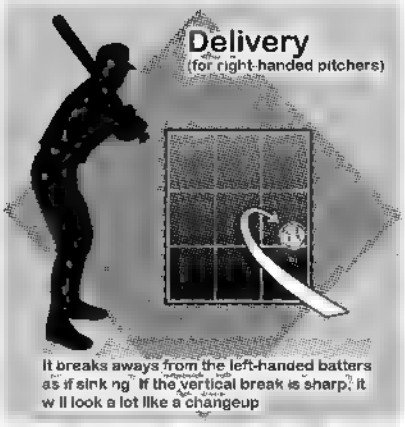
SINKER

Sinker travels on a trajectory resembling the reversed path of a slider. The lower the throwing arm swings, the more vertical movement is produced. In case of a right-handed pitcher and left-handed batter, or left-handed pitcher and right-handed batter, the effect is especially visible due to the batter's box and the pitcher's dominant arm being opposite, as the pitch breaks aways from the batter while sinking, which makes it a hard-to-hit winning shot.

GRIP FOR RIGHT-HANDED PITCHERS



The ball is held between the middle and ring fingers. The index finger is lined along the middle one, and the pinky along the ring one, while the thumb supports the ball from the bottom. Upon release, the ball is pushed out with stroke-like motion from the index and middle fingers, with the ring finger as the axis. Compared with overhand delivery, sidearm delivery is considered a better form for throwing the sinker.



It breaks aways from the left-handed batters as if sinking. If the vertical break is sharp, it will look a lot like a changeup

NOTABLE USERS

ANOTHER ARTICLE ON THE NEXT PAGE!
WHAT IS A PITCHING FORM?

TRIVIA

The screwball that left-handed pitchers throw resembles the sinker but is considered a different pitch. Look forward to part 3 of "What is a breaking ball?" where we will talk about spin.

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT BASEBALL EXPLAINED!

3 WHAT IS A PITCHING FORM?

The second article today is about the pitching form! It is said that there are as many pitching forms as there are pitchers, but we will split them all into 4 big types and introduce them to you in detail! When you know the pecularities of various forms, you will find reading Daiya no A even more fun!

OVERHAND

Overhand delivery is the most common type of delivery in baseball. With the release point of the ball being high overhead, a pitcher can gain a good angle with the throw and impart more power to the ball thanks to gravitation upon swinging the arm downward, which is the reason why it is easy to achieve good speed of a pitch with this form compared to the other forms. Due to that, most pitchers with a fastball-based pitching style prefer this form.

RECOMMENDED BREAKING BALLS SLIDER, CURVEBALL, FORKBALL

ADVANTAGES

- EASY TO ACHIEVE HIGH SPEED COMPARED TO THE OTHER FORMS
- EASY TO DO THE SLIDE STEP, ETC.
- DROPPING BREAKING BALLS CAN BE USED VERY EFFECTIVELY

TRIVIA

An overhand pitch is sometimes called an overarm pitch. It is not quite right to call it an overthrow pitch though, because such naming may refer to a wild pitch. Baseball uses numerous special terms, be sure to look them up.

ILLUSTRATION FOR RIGHT-HANDED PITCHERS

THREE-QUARTER

Three-quarter delivery is the most natural pitching form that makes the best use of the centrifugal force and is good for achieving speedy pitches, but for a reason different from the overhand delivery form. Since it uses a throwing motion that's the most natural to the human body, it puts less stress on the body and the risk of an injury is lower Pitcher control is also easier to achieve with this all-purpose form which is the reason why many professional players use it.

RECOMMENDED BREAKING BALLS SLIDER, SINKER, CURVEBALL

ADVANTAGES

- EASY TO THROW FAST PITCHES AND CONTROL THEM
- LOWERED RISK OF AN INJURY COMPARED TO THE OTHER FORMS
- HORIZONTALLY BREAKING BALLS CAN BE USED VERY EFFECTIVELY

TRIVIA

Do you know why it is called the three-quarter form? Apparently because the throwing arm is tilted at the vertical angle of 3/4 (approx.135 degrees)!

ILLUSTRATION FOR RIGHT-HANDED PITCHERS

ON THE NEXT PAGE

SIDEARM AND UNDERHAND DELIVERY EXPLAINED!

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK IT OUT!

SIDEARM

Sidearm delivery is a form where the pitcher's arm is held out perpendicular to their body. Compared to overhand and three-quarter form, it doesn't impart much speed to the ball, but it is said to be the easiest form for pitcher control. Since a pitch gains a sharp angle when thrown from this form, crossfire (a fastball thrown to the inside to the batter in the batter's box opposite of the pitcher's throwing arm) can be put to an effective use, making it a formidable weapon for many pitchers.

RECOMMENDED BREAKING BALLS SINKER, SLIDER, SHOOTBALL

ADVANTAGES

- EASY TO STABILIZE THE FORM AND GAIN PITCHER CONTROL
- CROSSFIRE AND SIMILAR PITCHES CAN BE USED EFFECTIVELY
- EASY TO ACHIEVE A BIG BREAK FOR HORIZONTALLY BREAKING BALLS

TRIVIA

There is a trend in the recent years not to make sidearm pitchers starters for the reason that it is allegedly easy for the batter in the batter's box opposite of a pitcher's throwing arm to see the grip used and the trajectory of the pitch. But to be able to perceive all that at the moment of the release, some hitters by God they must be...!

ILLUSTRATION FOR RIGHT-HANDED PITCHERS

UNDERHAND

Underhand (or underarm, or submarine) delivery is the pitchig form where a pitcher bends down to throw the ball from underhand, close to the ground. The speed of pitches is much lower compared to the other forms, but the the unusual release point and the rhythm, as well the fact that there are few submarine pitchers, offer the rarity and pecularity factor.
The trajectories of breaking balls are very different from how they are for the other forms, which makes it a potent weapoon. This is the most technique-sensitive pitching form!

RECOMMENDED BREAKING BALLS SLIDER, CURVEBALL, SINKER

ADVANTAGES

- ALLOWS TO THROW RISING PITCHES
- GIVES ANY BREAKING BALL A PECULIAR TRAJECTORY COMPARED TO THE OTHER PITCHING FORMS
- THERE ARE FEW UNDERARM PITCHERS, SO THE BATTERS ARE NOT USED TO SUCH DELIVERY

TRIVIA

In the past, all the pitchers used only the underhand delivery because the rules allowed to "pitch" as in to "toss", but not "throw". Many breaking balls originated from the underarm delivery, so it is a pitching form with a lot of history.

ILLUSTRATION FOR RIGHT-HANDED PITCHERS

NEXT TIME!

IN PART 3 OF **"WHAT IS A BREAKING BALL?"** YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT THE **FORKBALL** AND THE **SCREWBALL!**

LOOK FORWARD TO IT!

IRREGULAR CORNER

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT BASEBALL EXPLAINED!

4 WHAT IS A BREAKING BALL? 3

FORKBALL & SCREWBALL

This is a corner that will answer all of your questions about baseball in details to help you enjoy Daiya no A even more! This time, we will talk about the breaking ball that serves as a winning shot for many pitchers, the forkball, as well as a breaking ball exclusive to southpaw pitchers, screwball! Once you read about it, you will become a savvy baseball fan!

FORKBALL

A breaking ball with relatively high speed that breaks sharply downward at the plate. It is gripped deep between fingers and thrown in a way to keep the spin upon release to a minimum which allows for greater air resistance and pronounced deceleration resulting in the ball dropping down at the plate. Compared to the grips for he other breaking ball, the grip for the forkball is notably insecure, which results in a higher ratio of wild pitches. In order to avoid throwing wild pitches and bring it under control, one needs to increase the grip strength. There is an anecdotal story that the legendary pitcher Murayama Minoru (ex-member of baseball team Hanshin) practiced holding a 1.8 liters bottle between his fingers in order to achieve it. This pitch is best for making the batters swing and miss, which is the reason why many pitchers use it as the finishing shot.

GRIP FOR RIGHT-HANDED PITCHERS

The ball is inserted between the index and middle fingers, keeping them off the seams. The deeped one manages to place the ball between the two fingers, the less the spin will be imparted to it and the sharper the break can be achieved. The wrist isn't snapped when releasing the ball, only the swing of the arm and the strength of the two fingers is used to impart speed to the ball. Depending on the relative position of the seams and the depth of the grip, the spin and the air resistance will be different, which is said to result in the break also changing.

Delivery (for right-handed pitchers)

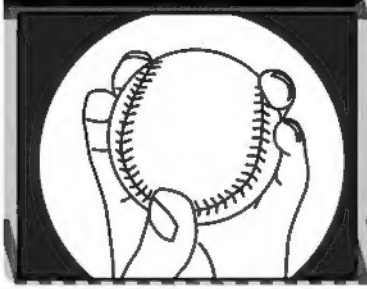
Moving like a fastball, it sharply decelerates at the plate and breaks downward as if falling.

NOTABLE USERS

SCREWBALL

This breaking ball is exclusive to left-handed pitchers and will also break in the direction of the pitcher's dominant arm, that is, to the left. Its break is similar to the break of the sinker, a pitch thrown by right-handed pitchers. The screwball is effective when the batter is right-handed. Very few pitchers throw this pitch, so there is no clear standard for it, and it is also difficult to conclusively separate this breaking from the others. The break of the screwball may be similar to that of the sinker, but generally, the screwball is similar to the changeup. The changeup can be thrown to change pace and to break vertically, but the screwball utilizes spin to achieve a sort of a horizontal break. The screwball that falls and breaks away from the right-handed batters is used as the winning shot by left-handed pitchers against right-handed batters to make them swing and miss.

GRIP FOR LEFT-HANDED PITCHERS



There are a few grips for it, but we will talk about the most common one, which is similar to the grip for the sinker, with a gap between the middle and ring fingers that are splayed on the sides of the ball. The ball is released with the help of the index and middle fingers with a motion similar to stroking the ball. The middle finger is what imparts spin to the ball, so one needs to pay attention to it. It is said that, just like in the case with the sinker, it is easier to throw the screwball with the sidearm delivery than with the overhead one.

Delivery (for left-handed pitchers)

It breaks away from the right-handed batters while sinking.

NOTABLE USERS

NEXT TIME!

IN PART 4 OF "WHAT IS A BREAKING BALL?" YOU WILL LEARN ALL ABOUT *FASTBALLS*!

LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT INSTALLMENT!

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OFFICIAL NEWS

A REVIEW OF WHAT HAPPENED IN THE SPRING TOKYO TOURNAMENT TILL NOW!

DETAILED REPORT ON NOTABLE GAMES #1

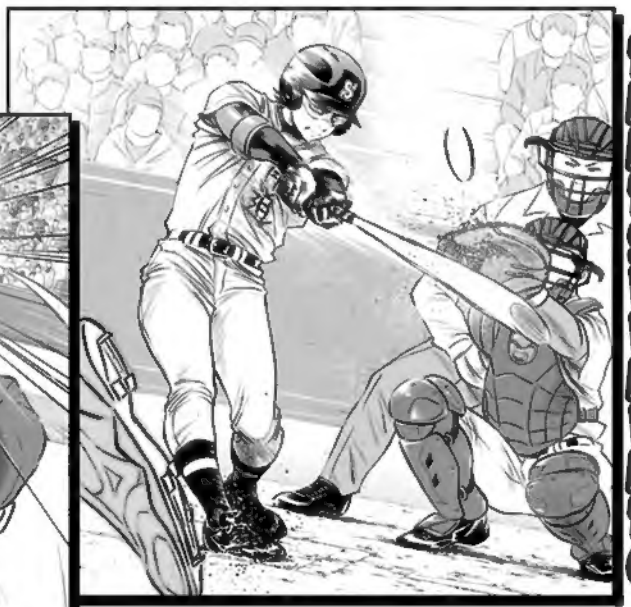
The 4 semifinalists of the Spring Tournament have emerged! Let's play back the development of the fierce battles so far! See for yourself enhanced Seidou, revived Inajitsu and the evolved forms of every other participating school after the winter off-season period!

SPRING TOKYO METROPOLITAN HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TOURNAMENT: ROUND 3

Seidou High 青道高校 (WEST TOKYO) VS. Eigen High 永源高校 (EAST TOKYO)

○9-1● (called after 7 innings)

▶ The captain's 32nd homerun in his high school track record gave his team a boost.



THE REIGNING KINGS OF TOKYO, SEIDOU, WON OVER-WHELMNGLY LIKE YOU WOULD EXPECT OF THE TRUE CHAMPIONS!

▲ Sawamura fought head-on with only his fast-balls, showing some perfect relieving by striking out 3 batters in a row with only 3 pitches to each!

Seidou just returned from Senbatsu, and their first opponent in the Spring Tournament was to be Eigen High. Including the homerun by the captain, Miyuki, in the 4th inning, Seidou's batting lineup provided a strong backing to their starting pitcher, Kawakami, scoring 5 runs at once. Kawakami responded in kind with reliable pitching, only losing 1 run in the 6th. In the bottom of the 7th, with 8 run lead for Seidou, head coach Kataoka had the relief pitcher, Sawamura, take the mound, who ended the inning in 3 three-pitch strikeouts against the top of Eigen's lineup starting from their 2nd batter. That sealed Seidou's overwhelming win in a called game, demonstrating their strength as the winners of the Fall Tournament.

IchidaiSan High 市大三高 vs. Kawamura High 河村高校

(WEST TOKYO) (EAST TOKYO)

○11-0● (called after 5 innings)

The ace, Amahisa, complained about not having pitched enough due to the lineup ending the game in 5 innings.

THEIR SIGHTS SET ON VICTORY, AND IT IS IN SIGHT FOR THEM!

IchidaiSan High was not in the best shape during last year's summer and fall. This spring, they hit and hit, scoring 11 runs in just 5 innings and losing none at all, as if determined to dispell the gloom of the past, which made for an overwhelming display of power and a called game. Does this powerhouse school, boasting both rock-solid offense and defense, have any weakness at all...?

Akikawa Academy 明川学園 vs. Minamidai High 南台高校

(WEST TOKYO) (EAST TOKYO)

●2-9○ (called after 7 innings)

You, not having the right to participate, watches from the sidelines as a ball boy...

ACELESS AKIKAWA IS OUT IN THE 3RD ROUND AFTER PUTTING UP A GOOD FIGHT...

Akikawa's ace, You Shunshin, cannot participate in games due to the rules of Japan High School Baseball Federation. His team showed tenacity by seizing the lead in the opener, but from the midpoint on thet fell behind, with the score gap only growing with each passing minute. The game was called in the 7th, ending in their crushing defeat with a painful 7 run score gap.

Inashiro Jitsugyou High 稲城実業高校 vs. Yakushi High 薬師高校

(WEST TOKYO) (WEST TOKYO)

○4-0●

The most anticipated faceoff: Narumiya Mei vs Todoroki Raichi! It ended with Narumiya's perfect victory, with Raichi hitless even after his 4 at-bats.

THE KINGS, INAJITSU, HAVE REVIVED! A PERFECT SHUTOUT GAME BY THEIR ACE, NARUMIYA, WITH ONLY 2 HITS ALLOWED!

The most attention garnering match of the Spring Tournament, starring Inashiro Jitsugyou, the vice-champions of last year's Summer Koushien, and Yakushi High, a quarter-finalist of this year's Senbatsu. In the 1st inning, Yakushi's ace, Sanada, ended his school's turn on defense in 3 batters, centering his pitching around the shootball he had perfected during the winter. In the bottom of the same inning, Inajitsu's ace, Narumiya, gave up a hit to Mishima and had to face Yakushi's main cannon, Todoroki Raichi early on. Their fight saw Narumiya emerge victorious, on a fly to left field.

▲ His third year in high school is the culmination of everything to Narumiya Mei. In preparation to fighting for the top of the nation, his first goal is to win the Spring tournament together with the rest of Inashiro unique players with strong individuality.

▲ The lineup responded to Narumiya's strong pitching by hitting off Yakushi's ace, Sanada.

After that, Inajitsu managed to take 4 runs from Sanada, with Carlos' homerun and Yamaoka's RBI. Narumiya kept only getting better each inning, shutting out the opponents completely, with only 2 hits in total allowed for the whole of 9 innings. Inajitsu, centered around their absolute ace, Narumiya, convincingly demonstrated their revival as the "strong Inajitsu".
Yakushi, on the other hand, was left nearly hitless, with the match highlighting the issues to work on in preparation to the summer.

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE REPORT #2 ABOUT THE 4TH ROUND!